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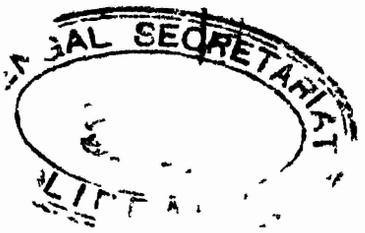

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA

TO

BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES

FOR

1875-76.

BY

J. G. GRANT, M.D.,

Protector of Emigrants, Calcutta.

Calcutta:

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No. 1112A., dated Calcutta, the 31st October 1876.

From—Dr. J. G. Grant, M.D., Protector of Emigrants, Calcutta,

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Political Department.

I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, my annual report on emigration from the port of Calcutta to the several British and foreign colonies during the official year 1875-76.

Medical Inspector of Emigrants.—Dr. R. Moir, who succeeded Dr. S. B. Partridge, continued to hold office up to 8th July 1875, when he resigned. During the remaining portion of the year under review several changes occurred in connection with this appointment, which may be briefly stated by saying that it was held by Dr. J. Elliot as Officiating Medical Inspector up to 18th August, and thereafter by me, also officiating, up to 5th October, when Dr. E. J. Gayer was appointed, and continued in office for the rest of the year.

The Office and Establishment.—The premises occupied by this office throughout the year were those to which it had been removed during the previous year. As regards the establishment, however, a revision was effected during the year, under which the nominal rolls of the establishments attached to the inland and colonial departments of this office not only underwent some changes, but were amalgamated, and increased from 12th January last by the addition of four clerks and a peon—an accession rendered unavoidable by the steadily-growing demands on the attention of the Emigration Department. In connection with the changes above noticed, Mr. Forbes, the Head Assistant, was most deservedly promoted to the appointment of personal assistant, and I would here acknowledge gratefully the help thus considerately afforded, with the view of enabling me to cope more fully and successfully with the onerous duties of my position as Protector of Emigrants in respect to colonial emigration, and also as Superintendent of inland emigration. The attendance of the establishment was on the whole regular, and their attention to work not less satisfactory than that of the previous year, especially when it is considered that for three-fourths of the past year the office continued short-handed.

The following table exhibits the extent of the correspondence of the past year as compared with that of the three previous years:—

Number of letters.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76
Received	1,392	2,375	3,084	2,586
Despatched ..	1,828	2,537	2,001	1,675
Total ...	3,220	4,912	5,085	4,261

It will be seen that there has been a reduction to some extent in the correspondence dealt with during the past year, but this may be readily accounted for by emigration operations having been unavoidably curtailed in consequence of the difficulties attending the recruitment of labourers for the colonies. This reduction, however, was more than counterbalanced by the unusually heavy correspondence in connection with inland emigration.

Emigration Act and Rules.—Act VII of 1871 continued in force throughout the year, but some of the rules regulating emigration were amended, chiefly Rule 75, which underwent considerable alteration with the object of prescribing stricter precautionary measures against the risk of fire on board emigrant ships. Moreover, two publications—the *West India Pilot*, volume I., and the *South America Pilot*, Part I.—were added to the list of books prescribed under schedule A. to be carried in emigrant ships.

Emigration Agencies.—The several agencies (British and foreign) which were engaged in the conduct of recruiting operations during the past year were seven in number, as shown below :—

Colonies	Agencies	Emigration Agents	Date of approval of appointments	Situation of depôts
Mauritius	British	Mr C Eales	21st July 1863	Bhowanipore, near Tolly's Nullah
Jamaica	Ditto	,, W M Anderson	19th Oct. 1868	76 Garden Reach
Demerara	Ditto	,, H A Firth	19th Feb 1872	8, Ditto
Natal	Ditto	,, Ditto	31st Jan 1874	8, Ditto
Trinidad	Ditto	,, R. W S Mitchell	6th June 1874	9 Ditto
Guadeloupe	French	,, F Lamouroux	14th May 1862	5, Meetapooker Lane Garden Reach
Martinique	Ditto			

Besides the above there were also other agencies, namely for St. Vincent, Nevis, Cayenne, and Surinam ; but as they did not recruit labourers during the year, they have not been entered in the above table No alterations took place in regard to the management of the several agencies, excepting that of Surinam, in which case Mr. W. Durham ceased on the 6th July 1875 to be the agent, and Mr. E. Vancutsem, Consul for the Netherlands, in accordance with the orders of the Netherlands Government, assumed charge of the office of the agency pending the appointment of a successor. In regard to the measures adopted for the proper working of the agencies, I would observe that efforts have not been wanting on the part of the several agents to discharge their duties efficiently, and to introduce such improvements as were considered necessary for the welfare of the coolies.

Depôts.—The depôt buildings were kept in proper repair, and were suitable and more than sufficient for the accommodation of the intending emigrants who were recruited on behalf of the seven agencies at work during the year. The depôt of the Trinidad agency had been removed during the previous year from its former site in Old Road Garden Reach to No. 9, Garden Reach on the river bank, *i. e* next door to the depôt of the Demerara agency; and I am now able to add that the new site has proved to be a most desirable one, and has among other advantages that of a substantial embarkation wharf, which formerly belonged to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. The feeding arrangements, moreover, were satisfactory under the two systems in force—the one, as in the case of British Guiana, Natal, and the French colonies, of issuing cooked rations ; and the other, as in the case of Mauritius, Jamaica, and Trinidad, of issuing uncooked rations.

No complaints sufficiently serious to deserve notice were preferred by the emigrants who, there is reason to believe, were considerately treated whilst in depôt awaiting embarkation.

The following table furnishes the number of emigrants accommodated in the depôts during the past year, and the mortality which occurred amongst them, as compared with that of the previous year :—

Depots	1874-75			1875-76		
	Number admitted into depôts	Number of deaths	Percentage of deaths	Number admitted into depôts	Number of deaths	Percentage of deaths
Demerara	4,422	4	0 09	4 465	4	0 8
Trinidad	2,922	18	0 44	2,014	1	0 4
Jamaica	1,637	10	0 61	990	10	1 1
Mauritius	5 490	25	0 45	929	2	0·21
Natal	6,802	19	0 27	448	1	0 22
St Vincent	358	1	0 27			
Guadeloupe Martinique	1,762	7	0 39	2 285	12	0 52
Total	25 393	79	0 33	11,126	30	0 26

It will be seen that the number of emigrants admitted into the depôts during the past year fell short of the number of the previous year by 12,267 souls, and therefore the extent of accommodation being about the same in each of the years under comparison, necessarily more than met the requirements of the season.

The results in respect to mortality as shown by the table are on the whole even more satisfactory than those of the previous year, for while the percentage of deaths in 1874-75 was 0·33, that of 1875-76 fell to 0·26, and that the death-rate of the depôts belonging to the agencies for Jamaica, Mauritius, and the French colonies, is somewhat in excess of that of the previous year, was due to the presence in them of some cases of cholera and bowel complaints.

The following table exhibits the period of detention of emigrants in the depôts :—

Depôts.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Remarks.
Mauritius ...	40	2	21	
Jamaica ...	185*	1	66	* Due to detention consequent on inability to embark in the *Cheeta*, the first ship of the season.
Demerara ...	97†	1	19	† Due to detention while convalescent from fever.
Natal ...	90‡	1	24	‡ Ditto under treatment for bronchitis and opthalmia.
Trinidad ...	109§	2	31	§ Due to detention following premature delivery.
Gaudeloupe ... } Martinique ... }	...	.....	.....	Not known ; information not available in consequence of the sudden death of the late Agent.

The provisions of Rule 17, requiring the despatch of emigrants if possible within a month from the date of their arrival in depôt, were fairly carried out, except in the Jamaica depôt, in which the average exceeded two months. But this exceptionally long detention was brought about by the protracted voyage of the ship *Cheeta*, which had been previously chartered for the conveyance of emigrants during the season, and her subsequent unavoidable delay in Calcutta in consequence of certain enquiries which were instituted in connection with the mortality and other circumstances attending her late voyage with return emigrants from Jamaica. The observations in the column of remarks sufficiently explain the causes of the excessive maximum detentions to have been the long-continued treatment of cases in the depôt hospital.

Recruitment.—The following table shows that the licenses granted during the year amounted to 326, or six in excess of the number issued during the previous year :—

Recruiting Agencies.	Licenses.								
	Granted.			Cancelled.					
				1873-74.		1874-75.		1875-76.	
	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Mauritius	54	43	1	2	3·70	1	2·32	1	100·0
Demerara	147	60	133	7	4·76	.....	.....	9	6·76
Trinidad	27	52	50	2	7·40	1	1·92	4	8·00
Jamaica	29	38	25	.	... ..	1	2·63	2	8·00
Natal	...	78	47	....	.. ..	2	2·56	1	2·12
St. Vincent	14	6	.....	.. ..	.. ..	.. .	...	.. .	.....
French Colonies	66	43	70	... ..	.....	2	4·65	4	5·71
Surinam	29	... ..	.....	1	3·44	... ..	...	... ..	.....
Nevis	9	.....	..	.. .	.. ..	.....	. .	.....	.....
Total	375	320	326	12	3·20	7	2·18	21	6·44

That there should have been an increase in the number of licenses granted, although the number of recruits obtained was only about half of the number collected during the previous year, is attributable to the comparative scarcity of labour, and the consequent necessity for the dispersion of a larger number of recruiters over a wider field of recruitment.

The number of licenses cancelled during the past year trebled that of the previous year, the percentage being 6·44 against 2·18—a result also attributable to the scarcity of labour and the consequent temptations to commit irregularities in their efforts to secure labourers in sufficient numbers to meet the demand.

The terms offered to intending emigrants by the several colonies which engaged labour during the year underwent no alterations, and are given below in detail :—

Colony.	Classification of emigrants.	Period of indenture.	Work.		Wages, minimum rate claimable.	Rations.		Dwelling house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage when claimable.
			Nature.	Duration.		Prescribed scale.	Period of supply.			
British Guiana...	Adult males from 15 and upwards. Males from 10 to 15, and females above 10 years of age.	Five years.	Cultivation of the soil, and manufacture of the produce	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours in the fields or ten hours in the buildings in each day.	Rs. A. P. Daily— 24 cents = 0 8 0 16 „ = 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	For adults of and above 15 years of age at a cost of two annas and eight pies daily :— Rice ... 1¼ lb Dal ... 4 oz. Cocoanut-oil or ghee 1 „ Massala ... ... ½ „ Sugar ... ... 2 „ Salt ... ... ½ „ For minors of and above 10, and under 15 years of age, half the above quantities at half the cost. For infants under 10 years of age one-third the above quantities free of cost.	From the first date of delivery to any employer until the first day of October then next following.	Free of charge	Free of charge.	After ten years' continuous residence in the colony, five of them being under indenture.
Trinidad ...	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and nine hours each day.	Daily— 1s. 0½d. = 0 8 4 Payable fortnightly.	For adults from 10 years and upwards:— Rice ... .. 1 lb Dal .. ½ oz. Ghee or cocoanut-oil 1 „ Sugar ... ... 2 „ (Daily.) For non-adults from five to 10 years half the above scale.	For two years at a cost of 2 annas and 8 pie per ration. Free of charge.	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Jamaica	Adult males from 16 years and upwards Males from 12 to 16 years, and females of any age.	Ditto .	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Daily— 1s. = 0 8 0 9d. = 0 6 0 Payable monthly.	For adults— Rice ... ... 1½ lb Or corn meal ... 2 „ Or cooked cassava ... 2 „ Raw ditto ... 5 „ „ yams or cocoas 4 „ (Daily.) Split peas ... ... 8 „ Salt-fish ... .. 6 „ Or mutton, beef, or goat flesh ... ... 8 „ Ghee ... ... 1 „ Or sweet or cocoanut-oil ... ... 1 pint. Salt ... ... 1 lb. Dry pepper or pimento, 2 oz. Fuel sufficient. (Monthly.)	For the first three months, or, if necessary, for the whole period of indenture, at maximum cost of 3s. 6d. weekly.	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
Mauritius ...	Males— Adult above 18 yrs. „ 15 to 18 „ „ 12 to 15 „ Minors above 10 to 12 years. Females. Adults— Male return emigrants above 18 years. Male return emigrants above 14 to 18 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto and domestic service.	Ditto ...	Monthly— 10s. = *5 0 0 8s. = 4 0 0 6s. = 3 0 0 5s. = 2 8 0 Daily— 6d. = 0 4 0 and rice, or monthly— 6s. = 3 0 0 11s. = *5 8 0 9s. = 4 8 0 Payable monthly.	For adults above 12 years— Rice ... ... 1½ lb Pounded maize ... 2 „ Cooked manioc ... 2½ „ Raw ditto . 5 „ (Weekly.) Dal ... ... 8 oz. Salt-fish ... .. 8 „ Ghee or oil ... .. 4 „ Salt ... . 4 „ (Monthly.) For non-adults under 12 years three-fourths of the above scale.	For whole period of indenture. Free of charge	Ditto	Ditto ...	Not provided by the colony.

Natal	Adult males of and above the age of 15 years. Adult females of and above the age of 15 years.	Ditto ...	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in each week, holidays excepted, and eight hours in each day. ...	Monthly— 1st year ... 5 0 0 2nd „ ... 5 8 0 3rd „ ... 6 0 0 4th „ ... 6 8 0 5th „ ... 7 0 0 Half the above rates.	For adults— 1½ lb rice, or for three days in the week, as substitute for rice, 2 lb of pounded maize. Monthly— Dal ... ... 2 lb Salt-fish ... ... 2 „ Ghee or oil... ... ... 1 „ Salt ... ... 1 „ For non-adults of the age of one year and upwards, half the above scale.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	After ten years' residence five of them being under indenture.
French Colonies	Adult males of 16 years and upwards. Adult females of 14 years and upwards. Males from 11 to 16 years, and females from 11 to 14 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto	Monthly ... 5 0 0 Ditto ... 4 0 0 Ditto .. 2 0 0 Payable weekly. Also two suits of clothes each year.	Rice, manioc, flour, salt-fish, ghee or oil, salt, &c., in the quantities fixed by Government regulations. } Daily.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto ..	After five years' service under indenture.

* These rates are subject to yearly increments of eight annas.

From the comparatively small number who were actually induced during the year to emigrate on the conditions offered, it would appear that *when there is no famine or serious scarcity* the present terms do not prove so attractive as to secure recruits in sufficient number to satisfy the requisitions of colonies making large demands for Indian labour. For example, the demand made by Demerara was not satisfied, and this although the rate of wages and other advantages offered appear sufficiently liberal. I am inclined, however, to the opinion that the provision of a free return passage after ten years' residence in the colony is not a very encouraging feature to the average coolie. Emigrants are necessarily drawn from the poorest classes, and so unusual it is for such labourers in this country to earn more than a few annas daily, that it is difficult for many of them to believe that it will be possible for them to earn and save enough in about five years to pay for their return passages; while the prospect of having to remain ten years away from their homes before they can be entitled to a free return passage involves so many doubts, risks, and contingencies that many of them rather than venture so far abroad, prefer to bear the poverty and ills they know at home, and this all the more readily as their wants are few.

Intending Emigrants.—In communication with the Emigration Agents every effort was made to render, for the period under review, an account of the number of coolies recruited and registered in the interior, and of the number who absconded before reaching the depôts. It was hoped that the several agents, like the contractors in connection with inland emigration, would, in communication with their mofussil sub-agents and recruitors, be in a position to give all the necessary information on this point; but it appears that in the absence of any reliable records, the agents are not in a position to do so, though, while regretting their inability for the past year, they have promised to try and make such arrangements as will render information of the kind desired available for the present and future years.

The emigrants despatched to the colonies during the past year numbered, as will be seen from the following statement, 9,251 only, as against 20,230 of the previous year :—

Colonies	Number of emigrants despatched			Colonies	Number of emigrants despatched		
	1873-74	1874-75	1875-76		1873-74	1874-75	1875-76.
Mauritius	5,387	4,914	739	Martinique .	441	.. ..	521
Demerara	8,497	3,942	3,849	St Vincent ...		342	. .
Trinidad	2,138	2,540	1,653	Natal		6,025	393
Jamaica ..	1,463	1,258	767	Nevis	343	... ...	. .
Surinam	3,523						
Guadeloupe	1,350	1,209	1,329	Total ...	24,569	20,230	9,251
Cayenne .	1,427						

That the requirements of some of the colonies were not satisfied within the period under report is apparent from the annexed table—

Colonies.	Number of statute adults required by the colonies	Number despatched represented as		Deficiency represented as statute adults
		Statute adults	Souls.	
Demerara	6 000	3,510½	3,849	2,489½
Trinidad	1 500	1,498½	1,653	1½
Jamaica	700	705	767	
Mauritius	798	673	739	125
Natal	4,000	362½	393	3,637½
Guadeloupe	1,264	1,264½	1,329	
Martinique	498	498½	521	
Total	14,760	8,542½	9,251	6,223½

The large deficiency on the supply of labour for Demerara may be ascribed to the comparative cheapness of food, and probably in some degree at least to the inadequacy of the terms in respect to a free return passage to meet certain considerations which must seriously influence the Indian labourer in determining as to whether he will emigrate—considerations such as the loss of caste; the separation for many years from home and friends; the chance of never returning; his utter ignorance of the colony offering employment, and consequent inability to estimate satisfactorily the value or otherwise of the

inducements held out to him. In addition to the above causes there were others which served to reduce considerably the total number of emigrants despatched during the year under review as compared with that of the previous year—(1) the suspension of emigration totally in regard to the colony of St. Vincent, and partially in regard to Mauritius the results of which were not by any means appreciably compensated by the resumption of emigration to Martinique and by the small excess number sent to Guadeloupe; and (2) the commencement of recruiting operations for Natal nearly at the close of the year, after those for Demerara had ceased.

Of the 9,251 emigrants who left this port during the season, 172 were return emigrants who re-emigrated to the different colonies in the following numbers :—

Colonies.	Number who re-emigrated as labourers.	Colonies.	Number who re-emigrated as labourers.
Demerara	86	Natal	1
Mauritius	43	French Colonies	.....
Trinidad	37	Total ...	172
Jamaica	5		

Not known.

Besides the above return emigrants there were 12 who returned to Demerara as private passengers, paying Rs. 984 for their passages; and 21 also who returned to Trinidad, paying Rs. 2,787-12-6 as passage-money.

The districts in which the emigrants were recruited are stated in the following table in the order of their importance as sources of supply :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Number of Souls despatched for the Colonies.						
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	Natal.	French Colonies.	Total.
North-Western Provinces...	Allahabad, Azimgurh, Mirzapore, Benares, Ghazeepore, Goruckpore, Meerut, Cawnpore, Bareilly, Agra, Jhansie, Jounpore.	290	1,741	967	400	185	799	4,382
Behar	Patna, Gya, Arrah, Sarun, Tirhoot, Chumparun, Monghyr, Bhagulpore.	239	1,039	281	92	105	550	2,306
Oudh	Oudh, Lucknow, Seetapore, Sultanpore, Fyzabad, Roy Bareilly.	137	810	258	245	85	326	1,861
Bengal	Calcutta, 24-Pergunnahs, Howrah, Nuddea, Burdwan, Moorshedabad, Jessore, Pubna, Rungpore, Cooch Behar, Purneah, Chota Nagpore, Bankoora, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Dacca, Mymensing, Backergunge, Furreedpore.	22	147	98	5	6	36	314
Central India	Indore, Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Raipore, Rewah, Gwalior.	4	30	18	4	5	58	119
Miscellaneous—Madras and Bombay, &c.	Unknown	38	20	7	4	.	28	97
Nepal and other Native States.	Unknown	5	28	6	15	5	28	87
Punjab and Dependencies	Delhi, Umballa, Jullundhur, Umritsur, Lahore, Peshawur, Ferozepore, Guzerat.	2	24	10	1	2	22	61
Orissa	Cuttack, Balasore, Pooree	2	10	8	1	..	3	24
	Total ...	739	3,849	1,653	767	393	1,850	9,251

It will be seen that the North-Western Provinces, Behar, Oudh, and Bengal have maintained their relative positions of the previous year, while Central India has furnished a larger number of labourers than it did during the previous year, and thus took rank after Bengal.

The depôt monthly returns and other records show that of the 11,126 souls admitted into the colonial depôts during the year under notice, 7·41 per cent. were rejected and released from their engagements, those who had been recruited up-country having been returned to their districts at the expense of the agencies concerned; 5·93 per cent. absconded from the depôts; 0·26 died in the depôts; and 9,251 souls embarked, leaving a balance of 338 souls remaining in depôt at the close of the year.

The number of desertions is comparatively large, but may be easily accounted for. Though it is impossible, from the nature of the case, to specify in each instance the particular motives which led to desertion, it may be said generally that some coolies abscond because they have been deceived by unscrupulous recruiters, a few because they have simply changed their minds, others because they become impatient of the unavoidable delay which occasionally attends their despatch, and some because they had predetermined to do so. Such persons have themselves registered as emigrants, not with any intention of emigrating, but with the fraudulent end in view of

coming down to Calcutta on their own business at the expense of the Emigration agencies, and therefore with the determination of absconding from the depôts or elsewhere as soon as conveniently possible after their arrival here.

The death-rate in depôt was, as already noticed, not excessive; and as every care had been taken to isolate and keep back all who were believed to be suffering from communicable diseases, the 9,251 souls who left were embarked under circumstances apparently the most favourable to success on the passage.

The rule prescribing the proportion of not less than 40 women to every 100 men for each shipment was not so fully complied with as it had been during the previous year, thus—

Colonies.	Men.	Women.	Proportion.
Demerara	2,507	887	35·38
Trinidad	1,006	422	41·94
Jamaica	482	193	40·04
Mauritius	488	163	33·40
Natal	241	105	43·56
Guadeloupe	1,018	215	21·11
Martinique	388	100	25·77

Excepting the shipments for the colonies of Trinidad, Jamaica, and Natal, those for the remaining colonies fell considerably short of the prescribed proportion in consequence of the extreme difficulty experienced by the agents in the recruitment of women, leaving to the debit of Demerara, Mauritius, and the French colonies large deficiencies in the number of women to be made good in the following year.

Emigrant vessels.—The subjoined table shows that no steamers, but twenty sailing vessels, each carrying an average of about 462 emigrants, were despatched during the past year :—

Colonies.	Ships left this port in—						Number of souls.	Average number of souls per ship.
	1874-75.			1875-76.				
	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.		
Demerara	8	.....	8	8	... ..	8	3,849	481
Trinidad	5	.....	5	3	... ..	3	1,653	551
Jamaica	3	.....	3	2	.....	2	767	383½
St. Vincent	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Mauritius	10	2	12	2	.....	2	739	369½
Natal	7	4	11	1	.....	1	393	393
French Colonies	3	.....	3	4	.....	4	1,850	462½
Total ...	37	6	43	20	.....	20	9,251	462½

Detailed information is given below regarding each vessel, and includes, among other particulars, the length of passage, together with the mortality that occurred on the passage :—

Number.	Name of vessel.	Colonies to which emigrants were conveyed.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure.	Date of arrival at destination.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.
1	Allumghior ...	Mauritius ..	A. Noel ...	25th April 1875 ...	10th June 1875 ...	46	348	1	0·28
2	Lady Melville ...	Ditto ...	F. Brun ...	12th June „ ...	24th July „ ...	42	391	13	3·32
3	Linguist ...	Demerara ...	G. Stewart ...	1st August „ ...	5th Nov. „ ...	97	602	9	1·49
4	Foyle ...	Trinidad ...	J. G. Winstone ...	8th ditto „ ...	12th ditto „ ...	94	611	1	0·16
5	Artist ...	Demerara ...	R. Rivers ...	12th ditto „ ...	10th ditto „ ...	94	512	6	1·17
6	Botanist ...	Ditto ...	T. D. Atkins ..	28th ditto „ ...	2nd Dec. „ ...	97	454	8	1·80
7	Jorwar ..	Trinidad ..	C. Chapman ...	14th Sept. „ ...	25th ditto „ ...	103	663	5	0·75
8	Ailsa ..	Demerara ...	W. Holman ...	21st ditto „ ...	19th ditto „ ...	86	470	8	1·70
9	Syria ...	Ditto ...	P. Hughes ...	21st Oct. „ ...	12th Jan. 1876 ...	84	446	1	0·22
10	Ganges ...	Trinidad ...	T. Thorp ...	10th Nov. „ ...	11th Feb. „ ...	89	379	3	0·79
11	King Arthur ...	Demerara ...	F. E. West ...	24th ditto „ ...	11th Mar. „ ...	108	463	5	1·07
12	Cheetah ...	Jamaica ...	J. S. Gerrard ...	26th ditto „ ...	10th ditto „ ...	105	355	19	5·35
13	Winefred ...	Martinique ...	Janssot ...	1st Dec. „ ...	11th ditto „ ...	102	521	37	7·10
14	Pandora ...	Demerara ...	J. M. Barry ...	28th ditto „ ...	10th ditto „ ...	84	473	5	1·05
15	Essex ...	Guadeloupe ...	S. Jean ...	7th January 1876 ..	22nd ditto „ ...	76	467	6	1·28
16	Surry ...	Ditto ...	A. Granger ...	9th Feb. „ ...	Not yet known.		436	Not known.	
17	Rohilla ...	Demerara ...	E. Allard ...	15th ditto „ ...	22nd May 1876 ...	99	429	9	2·09
18	Middlesex ...	Jamaica ...	J. S. Hughes ...	16th ditto „ ...	25th ditto „ ...	100	412	5	1·21
19	Brechin Castle ...	Guadeloupe ...	E. P. Presslle ...	27th ditto „ ...	Not yet known.		426	Not known.	
20	Atalanta ...	Natal ...	E. Whitelane ..	22nd March „ ...	13th May 1876 ...	53	393	5	1·27

The death-rate on board vessels of which reports have been received is even lower than it was last year—a gratifying result which may be traced to the continued absence of any epidemic, especially of cholera or measles.

The general arrangements on board these vessels for promoting the health and comfort of the emigrants on the passage received careful attention, and the

adoption during the season on board emigrant ships for the West Indies, of means for cooking the emigrants' meals by steam, proved a successful innovation, ensuring as it did the thorough and speedy cooking of their meals, with less trouble and risk of fire than attend the ordinary mode of cooking hitherto employed on board such ships.

Return emigrants.—The number of emigrants who returned from the colonies, the amount of their savings, and the percentage of mortality on the passage, are exhibited in the subjoined statement:—

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average per-centage of mortality.	Savings.	
				Aggregate amount.	Average amount.
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	8	1,782	0·84	2,86,089 0 0	161 0 9
Demerara	1	443	1·35	93,442 8 0	210 14 10
St. Vincent	1	40	12 50	7,026 4 0	175 10 6
Jamaica	1	268	33·20	20,272 0 0	75 10 3
Trinidad	By mail steamer.	2	.. ...	5,687 8 0	2,843 12 0
Natal	1	139	2·15	37,703 0 0	271 3 2
	12	2,674	4·41	4,51,119 15 0	168 11 3

More detailed information regarding each of the ships engaged for their conveyance is given below:—

Number.	Name of vessel.	Colonies from which emigrants returned.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure from colonies.	Date of arrival at Calcutta.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.
1	Merchantman ...	Mauritius ...	F. Brun ...	30th March 1875 ...	30th April 1875...	31	388	.....	..
2	Cheetah ...	Jamaica ..	J. S. Gerrard ..	10th May ,, ...	2nd October ,,	146	268	89	33·20
3	Glenroy ...	Mauritius ...	L. M. Gregoire ...	23rd May ,, ...	17th July ,, ...	56	233	2	0·83
4	Ganges ...	Natal ...	W. W. Ward ...	29th June ,, ...	9th Sept. ,, ...	73	139	3	2·15
5	Allumghier ...	Mauritius ...	A. Noel ...	7th July ,, ...	4th August ,, ...	28	232	1	0·43
6	Latona ...	Ditto	S Smith ..	22nd July ,, ...	4th Sept. ,, ...	55	286	8	2·79
7	Merchantman ...	Ditto	F. Brun .	26th August ,, ...	5th October ,, ...	41	157	... .	..
8	Rohilla ...	Demerara and St. Vincent.	L. T. Allard ...	5th Sept. ,, ...	24th Dec. ,, ...	111	443 40	6 5	1·35 12·45
9	Lady Melville ...	Mauritius ...	B. Nilie ...	25th Sept. ,, ...	12th Nov. ,, ...	49	176	1	0·56
10	Allumghier ...	Ditto ...	L. M. Gregoire ...	26th Nov. ,, ...	22nd Jan. 1876	58	160	3	1·87
11	Latona ...	Ditto ...	A. Noel ...	12th January 1876	25th Feb. ,,	45	150	.. ..	.....

As special reports on each of the above vessels have already been submitted to Government, it appears necessary to observe merely that on their arrival here each one of them was boarded and inspected by me, and their general condition was found to be fairly satisfactory; that the coolies who were questioned made no complaints of a serious nature, and appeared to be satisfied with the treatment they had received on the passage and during their absence in the colonies from which they had returned. The high death-rate, notably in the case of the *Cheetah*, which formed the subject of special enquiry both here and in Jamaica, was in all instances due to the presence among the return emigrants of a large proportion of hopelessly chronic invalids, who had prayed to be allowed to return to India; and although it was feared and doubtless felt by many of them, that their chance of reaching this country was but a slight one, it was not the less hoped at the time of their embarkation that the voyage might prove beneficial to many whom it had been found impossible to cure or relieve by mere medication.

I regret that I am not yet in a position to submit, together with the present report, an account of the receipts and charges in connection with the working of the department; this information, however, shall follow as speedily as possible, as it does not appear expedient to delay on that account the submission of the report itself.

In conclusion, I have the honor to submit the following returns for the year 1875-76:—

1. Annual return of Emigrants despatched to Demerara.
2. Ditto ditto Trinidad.
3. Ditto ditto Jamaica.
4. Ditto ditto Natal.
5. Ditto ditto Mauritius.
6. Annual return of Emigrants despatched to the French colonies.
7. Table exhibiting number of Emigrants to and from the West India colonies.
8. Ditto ditto Mauritius and Natal.

Annual Return of Emigrants despatched to Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, Natal, Mauritius, and the French West India Colonies during the year 1875-76.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Jamaica.			Natal.			Mauritius.			French West India Colonies.			Total		Grand total.
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	
Under 2 years	80	82	162	30	54	84	15	17	32	5	9	14	16	28	44	19	26	45	165	216	381
From 2 to 10 years	187	106	293	86	55	141	45	17	60	20	13	33	20	15	44	51	33	84	416	239	655
From 10 to 20 „	551	145	696	303	89	392	161	54	215	58	29	87	96	33	129	420	70	490	1,598	420	2,018
From 20 to 30 „	1,717	678	2,395	589	297	886	299	132	431	152	66	218	297	96	393	913	237	1,150	3,967	1,506	5,473
From 30 to 40 „	232	56	288	108	33	141	21	6	27	30	9	39	91	32	123	63	8	71	545	144	689
From 40 to 50 „	5	8	13	6	3	9	1	1	2	1	1	2	4	2	6	1	..	1	18	15	33
Above 50	2	...	2	.....	.	.....	...	...	...	.	...	...	..	..	..	. ..	..	.....	2	... ..	2
Grand total ...	2,774	1,075	3,849	1,122	531	1,653	540	227	767	266	127	393	533	206	739	1,476	374	1,850	6,711	2,540	9,251

No. 2.—As to places whence Emigrants came to Calcutta for embarkation.

Orissa	5	5	10	7	1	8	1		1	...	...	...	1	1	2	3		3	17	7	24
Western Bengal	37	37	74	10	19	29	2	2	4	2	2	4	7	2	9	9	6	15	67	68	135
Central Bengal	33	31	64	21	47	68	1	.	1	1	1	2	2	3	5	13	7	20	71	89	160
Eastern Bengal	9	.....	9	1		1	.		..	.		..	7	1	8	1		1	18	1	19
Behar	744	295	1,039	172	109	281	57	35	92	76	29	105	153	86	239	396	154	550	1,598	708	2,306
N.-W. Provinces	1,256	485	1,741	694	283	967	276	124	400	121	64	185	218	72	290	670	129	799	3,225	1,157	4,382
Oudh	610	200	810	189	69	258	182	63	245	54	31	85	110	27	137	266	60	326	1,411	450	1,861
Central India	23	7	30	17	1	18	3	1	4	5		5	4	.	4	50	8	58	102	17	119
Punjab	23	1	24	10	..	10	1		1	2		2	2	...	2	20	2	22	58	3	61
Nepal	22	6	28	5	1	6	13	2	15	5		5	4	1	5	24	4	28	73	14	87
Mix Madras and Bombay, &c.	12	8	20	6	1	7	4	.	4	...	.	.	25	13	38	24	4	28	71	26	97
Grand total ...	2,774	1,075	3,849	1,122	531	1,653	540	227	767	266	127	393	533	206	739	1,476	374	1,850	6,711	2,540	9,251

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

Brahmins, High Caste	412	160	572	213	73	286	98	43	141	60	22	82	76	23	99	369	79	448	1,228	400	1,628
Agriculturists .. } Hindus ... {	823	274	1,097	288	101	389	170	73	243	73	36	111	166	36	202	403	73	476	1,925	593	2,518
Artizans .. } Hindus ... {	248	93	341	75	39	114	42	13	55	20	13	33	30	18	48	122	33	155	537	209	746
Low Castes	909	328	1,237	413	207	620	183	64	247	82	38	120	201	97	298	419	114	533	2,207	848	3,055
Mussulmans	382	220	602	133	111	244	47	34	81	29	17	46	58	32	90	162	74	236	811	488	1,299
Christians	. ....	...	... .	.....		... ..	..		...	...	1	1	2		2	1	1	2	3	2	5
Grand total ..	2,774	1,075	3,849	1,122	531	1,653	540	227	767	266	127	393	533	206	739	1,476	374	1,850	6,711	2,540	9,251

Memorandum.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1 Hindus	5,897	2,050	7,947
2. Mussulmans ...	811	488	1,299
3. Christians	3	2	5
Total ..	6,711	2,540	9,251

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian Emigrants who have left Calcutta for the West Indies during the year 1875-76, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

Year.	Colonies	Embarked.								Returned.								Amount of savings brought by return emigrants.
		Men.	Women.	Children.		Infants.		Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.	Men.	Women.	Children.		Infants.		Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.	
				Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.					Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.			
																		Rs. A P
1875-76	Demerara	2,507	887	187	106	80	82	3,849	3,540½	251	106	35	28	11	12	443	388½	93,442 8 0
„ .	Trinidad	1,006	422	86	55	30	54	1,653	1,498½	2	...	..		...	2	2		5,687 8 0
„ ..	Jamaica . ..	482	193	43	17	15	17	767	705	195	51	14	5	1	2	268	255½	20,272 0 0
„	Martinique	388	100	15	6	4	8	521	498½		...	...	...	...	.	.	.....	
„ ..	Guadeloupe	1,018	215	36	27	15	18	1,329	1,264½		...	...	...	...	..	..	.....	
„ .	St. Vincent		.	...	...	...	..	...	. ..	23	7	3	4	1	2	40	33½	7,026 4 0
	Total ...	5,401	1,817	367	211	144	179	8,119	7,507	471	164	52	37	13	16	753	679½	1,26,427 15 0

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian Emigrants who have left Calcutta for Mauritius and Natal during the year 1875-76, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

1875-76	Mauritius	488	163	29	15	16	28	739	673	1,158	304	142	141	14	23	1,782	1,615½	2,86,980 0 0
	Natal	241	105	20	13	5	9	393	362½	77	23	20	13	3	3	139	116¼	37,703 0 0
	Total ...	729	268	49	28	21	37	1,132	1,035½	1,235	327	162	154	17	26	1,921	1,732½	3,24,692 0 0

The 31*st October* 1876.

J. G. Grant, M D.,
Protector of Emigrants.

E F. M—Regr. No. 8505—178—16-11-76.

EMIGRATION.

CALCUTTA, THE 18TH NOVEMBER 1876.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The report of the Protector of Emigrants on emigration to British and Foreign Colonies during the year ending 31st March 1876.

Read again—

The report for the previous year, with the orders of Government thereon.

Dr. Grant's report on emigration to the colonies has been submitted this year somewhat earlier than usual Still, looking to the recent decrease in the amount of work of the department, and to the addition which has been made to the strength of Dr. Grant's office establishment, the Lieutenant-Governor considers that it ought to have been possible to submit the report on an earlier date. The Lieutenant-Governor would have been glad also had the report been somewhat more detailed and had it contained fuller information on certain points.

2. The prominent feature in the report is the very marked falling off in the number of emigrants recruited and despatched to the several British colonies as compared with previous years. Not only have the indents made by some of these colonies, which have hitherto absorbed the largest amount of labour, been greatly reduced, but in the case of certain other colonies great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the number of labourers required, and especially of females.

As regards Natal, for which place the returns shew a balance of 3,637 labourers unobtained, the circumstance is explained by the fact of the indent having been received late in the official year. There is no such circumstance to account, however, for the failure which occurred in obtaining little more than half the number of labourers required for Demerara.

The indents made by the French colonies of Guadeloupe and Martinique appear to have been fully satisfied, but there was great difficulty in obtaining females, and the prescribed proportion was not in consequence made up.

3. The following are the principal results abstracted from the returns of the Emigration Department for the past three years:—

Number of emigrants admitted to the depôts ...	29,267	23,393	11,126
Ditto ditto despatched to colonies ...	24,569	20,230	9,251
Ditto ditto returned from ditto .	2,481	3,534	2,674
Death-rate in depôts ... .:	1·14	0·33	0·26
Ditto on outward-bound ships	3·15	1·4	1·74
Ditto on homeward-bound ships	.....	2·2	4·41

4. The chief defect in the returns from which the above figures are extracted is that they do not show the number of intending emigrants actually recruited in the interior, or the districts to which they belonged by birth. The former point was noticed in the resolution on the report submitted last year, and Dr. Grant's attention was drawn to the omission. He explains that he has not been able to afford the information for the past year owing to some difficulty in obtaining correct figures from the several emigration agents. It appears, however, to the Lieutenant-Governor that Dr. Grant should in future be able to furnish the requisite figures from the records of his own office. By law Magistrates are required on registering recruits to submit to the Protector copies of the entries made by them. These entries should supply all the necessary particulars. It appears, however, that there has been some laxity in carrying out these provisions of the law on the part of Magistrates, and the matter is one

which should at once receive attention. The subject is of great importance, as it is only by utilizing the information which these extracts are intended to furnish that the Protector can exercise any efficient check and control over the proceedings of sub-agents and recruiters in the interior.

5. The total number of recruiters licensed was 326 in the past, as compared with 320 in the previous year. Now that much difficulty is experienced in obtaining emigrants, a keen competition among these men is to be expected. Temptations to a recourse to misrepresentation and fraud on their part are consequently much increased, and it is more than ever incumbent on Magistrates to exercise vigilance in the performance of their duties. That the Emigration Department has not been wanting in this respect would seem to be indicated by the large increase in the number of licenses cancelled, 6·44 per cent. of the whole number having been thus withdrawn, against 2·18 per cent. only in the previous year.

6. The total number of intending emigrants admitted into the Calcutta depôts during the year was 11,126 only, against 23,393 in the previous year. The number of emigrants who absconded after admission to the depôts was 660, or 5·9 per cent. of the total number admitted. Dr. Grant explains that the desertions were due in part to the length of time the emigrants were detained in depôt; in part to their changing their minds; and in part to deliberate fraud, the engagement to emigrate in such cases having been entered into with the view of being brought down to Calcutta at the expense of the emigration agencies. From correspondence which has been separately before him, the Lieutenant-Governor has observed that apparently insufficient measures are adopted by emigration agents to check frauds of the kind alluded to. As for the rest, it behoves the Protector of Emigrants to satisfy himself that the absconding is not due to malpractices on the part of recruiters in the interior, and to misrepresentation and fraud having been used to allure the labourers to Calcutta. The total number of emigrants rejected and released from their engagements was 826, or 7·41 per cent. of the admissions. Of these, 675 or 6 per cent. were rejected by the Medical Inspector, and 151 or 1·35 per cent. were released as unwilling to emigrate, many of them having been dissuaded from emigrating by their friends.

7. The decrease of mortality in the depôts of late years is very satisfactory, and was even less during the past than in the previous year. How frequently or at what intervals the depôts were inspected is not stated; the state of the buildings, the accommodation provided, and the arrangements for feeding the emigrants are, however, said to have been good and sufficient in each case. Detentions in depôt beyond the prescribed period have been explained as unavoidable. There were no complaints of any importance.

8. In the following table the number of emigrants admitted to the depôts and despatched to the several colonies during the year under review is shown and contrasted with the corresponding figures for the previous year:—

Colonies.	Admitted to depôt.		Embarked.	
	1874-75.	1875-76.	1874-75.	1875-76.
Mauritius	5,490	929	4,914	739
Natal	6,802	448	6,025	393
Demerara	4,422	4,465	3,942	3,849
French Guiana	...	...	...	..
Dutch Guiana	...	...	...	...
Trinidad	2,922	2,014	2,540	1,653
Jamaica	1,637	990	1,258	767
St. Vincent	358	..	342	...
Nevis	...	...	...	...
Guadeloupe	1,762	2,285	1,209	1,329
Martinique	...	...	...	521
Total	23,393	11,126	20,230	9,251

With reference to the very large decrease in the number of emigrants despatched to the colonies in the past as compared with the two years immediately preceding, Dr. Grant observes that when there is no famine or serious scarcity the terms at present offered by the several colonies do not prove sufficiently attractive to secure a supply of recruits equal to the demand. In particular, in the case of Demerara he points out that, although the rate of wages and other advantages offered appear to be sufficiently liberal, the fact of a free return passage not being guaranteed until after ten years residence in the colony operates as a deterrent to emigration.

For the past two years emigration to French and Dutch Guiana has been suspended, owing to the great mortality which has occurred among the Indian labourers in those colonies. It appears that in some instances they have been set to work in the gold mines, a description of labour which was not contemplated in their contracts and which entails much hardship. This is a matter, however, which has been separately represented to the Supreme Government.

While the falling off in the number of emigrants to the British colonies of Mauritius, Trinidad, and Jamaica is very marked, it is to be observed that the indents for labourers made by those colonies have been almost fully met. As regards Mauritius, it would seem that there had been some over recruitment in past years, as the number of emigrants despatched in the past year was only 739, against 1,782 who returned to this country after completing their period of service.

9. The difficulty of obtaining the requisite number of labourers indented for, and especially from among the female population, is noticeable in the returns shewing how far the rule requiring the despatch of at least 40 females to 100 males has been complied with. From these it is observed that the required proportion has been maintained only in the case of emigrants to Natal, Trinidad, and Jamaica. The deficiency of women in the shipments to the French colonies is very marked, and has formed the subject of a separate correspondence. The amount of any deficiency in the proportion of women brought forward from previous years, and the extent to which it was made good in the year under review, has not been stated by Dr. Grant. This omission should be supplied in future reports.

10. Of the 9,251 emigrants despatched, 4,382 are said to have been recruited in the North-West Provinces, 2,306 in Behar, 1,861 in Oude, and 338 only in Bengal Proper and Orissa; the remainder are shewn to have been engaged in other parts of India. It is observable, however, that an increasing number of labourers are reported to have been recruited in Nepal and other native states. This is a matter which requires attention, and emigration agents should be informed that no recruiter can be permitted to enter a native state for the purpose of engaging emigrants without first obtaining the written permission of the Political Agent in charge.

11. The number of ships which sailed from the port of Calcutta with emigrants during the past year was 20, against 43 in the previous year. It is noteworthy that in no case were steam vessels so employed. Referring to the information given as regards the particulars of the passages made by these vessels, so far as they have been received, it appears that the mortality on board during the past year was 1·74, against 1·4 in the previous year. While there is nothing in these average figures to which exception can be taken, it is observed that in the case of two ships, the *Chetah* and the *Winifred*, the death-rate was lamentably high, and amounted to 5 35 and 7·10 respectively. As special reports on these cases have not hitherto been submitted to Government, the causes should have been fully mentioned in the present report.

Generally it is stated that the arrangements on board emigrant ships for promoting the health and comfort of the emigrants on the passage received careful attention during the year, and this statement is borne out by the small percentage of mortality which occurred during the voyages of most of the vessels.

12. Of the 2,674 emigrants who returned to India during the past year, about two-thirds came from Mauritius; British Guiana contributed 443 to the number and Jamaica 268. The amount of savings reported to have been brought back by the emigrants was Rs. 4,51,120, or nearly precisely the same as in the previous year, when, however, there were 3,534 return emigrants.

As observed in the resolution on last year's report, the death-rate on board ships bringing back return emigrants is rendered unduly high owing to the number of those who are placed on board as invalids and who take their chance of regaining their native shore. But for this fact the mortality which occurred on board the *Chetah* (33 per cent.) would be appalling.

13. Dr. Grant explains that he has been unable as yet to prepare an account of the financial administration of his department, the absence of which was noticed in connection with the previous report. It should be prepared and submitted, as promised, without further delay, and in future timely arrangements should be made for its submission with the report.

14. In conclusion, the Lieutenant-Governor has to tender his thanks to Dr. Grant for much assistance rendered in emigration matters during the year under report, and for the generally careful and diligent discharge of his duties as Protector of Emigrants.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

R. L. MANGLES,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 3508.

COPY submitted to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

No. 3509.

COPY forwarded to the Protector of Emigrants.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

R. L. MANGLES,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

CALCUTTA,
The 18th November 1876.

B. E.—Reg. No. 9020—20-11-76.

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA

TO

BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES

FOR

1876-77.

BY

SURGEON C. H. JOUBERT, M.B., LONDON, F.R.C.S.,
Offg. Protector of Emigrants.

Calcutta:
PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.
1877.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY

No. 766, dated Calcutta, the 1st August 1877.

From—Surgeon C. H. Joubert, M.B., London, F.R.C.S., Offg. Protector of Emigrants,
To—The Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I have the honor to submit for the information of Government the annual report on emigration from the port of Calcutta to the several British and foreign colonies during the official year 1876-77. Dr. Grant, Protector of Emigrants, having left India on two years' furlough in April last, and I having only taken over charge after the close of the year under review, this report will lack the details that could have been given by one in charge of the department during the year 1876-77.

2. *Medical Inspector of Emigrants.*—Surgeon-Major E. J. Gayer held this office till 25th April, from when, till the close of the official year, Surgeon-Major J. G. French held charge.

3. *Office and Establishment.*—No change in, or addition to, the nominal roll of office establishment took place during the year. The amalgamation of the Colonial and Inland Emigration Departments into one office has worked very satisfactorily, although the heavy arrears of former years, when the establishment was entirely inadequate, still hinder the current work. The two separate appointments of Superintendent of Emigration and Protector of Emigrants, held by Dr. Grant for the past eight years, were in October 1876 united into a single appointment under the same name, carrying an increased consolidated pay, at the rate of Rs. 1,200 per mensem. There was a slight reduction in the correspondence for the past year as compared with the three previous years, as will be seen by the following table :—

Number of letters.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.
Received	2,375	3,084	2,586	2,582
Despatched	2,537	2,001	1,675	1,571
Total ...	4,912	5,085	4,261	4,153

4. *Emigration Act and Rules.*—Act VII of 1871 continued in force throughout the year; but rule 75 of the rules in force at this port was cancelled, and a fresh rule substituted ordering that watches be kept day and night by two coolies in turn, who shall report all breaches of the rules; and that officers of the watch shall take measures to detect smoking between decks, and personally visit the between decks during their watch.

5. *Emigration Agencies.*—The following agencies, six in number, were engaged in the conduct of recruiting operations during the past year :—

Colonies.	Agencies.	Emigration Agent.	Date of approval of appointment.	Situation of depôts.
Mauritius	British ...	Mr. C. Eales	21st July 1863 ...	Bhowanipore, near Tolly's Nulla.
Demerara	Ditto ...	„ H. A. Firth, on leave	19th February 1873 ...	No. 9, Garden Reach.
		„ C. Eales, officiating	24th October 1876 ...	
Natal	Ditto ...	„ H. A. Firth, on leave	31st January 1874 ...	Ditto ditto.
		„ C. Eales, officiating	6th February 1877 ...	
Trinidad	Ditto ...	„ R. W. S. Mitchell	6th June 1874 ...	No. 9, Garden Reach.
Guadeloupe	French ...	„ F. Charriol	10th October 1876 ...	„ 5, Mechapooker Lane, do.
Surinam	Dutch ...	„ E. C. VanCutsem	27th April „ ...	„ 20, Garden Reach.

The Surinam agency is included in the above, having commenced recruiting in February under the terms of a special convention allowing the despatch of 300 coolies during the current year, although no coolies were received into the depôt till after the close of the year under report. During the year Mr. Firth, Agent for the Natal and Demerara Governments, took leave; and Mr. Eales, Agent to the Mauritius Government, officiated in Mr. Firth's place in addition to his own duties. The agent for the French colonies having died suddenly, Mr. F. Charriol was appointed in his place, and this appointment was approved by Government on the 10th October 1876. Mr. VanCutsem continued in charge of the Surinam agency.

6. *Depôts.*—Dr. Grant, in a memorandum left before his departure on furlough, expresses his satisfaction with the cordial co-operation he has received from the above-mentioned gentlemen with regard to carrying out all regulations concerning the internal administration of the several depôts, as well as in detecting and rectifying abuses connected with the recruitment of emigrants for the colonies. Dr. Grant appears to have been perfectly satisfied that the feeding arrangements were good, and that the food supplied to the coolies in depôt was wholesome and well cooked. The sleeping sheds and other buildings were kept in good order, and their cleanliness well maintained under the constant supervision of the agents, who very properly, as a rule, are resident at their several depôts. There appear to have been no complaints from the coolies of a nature demanding notice in this report.

The following table furnishes the number of emigrants accommodated in the depôts during the past year, and the mortality which occurred amongst them, as compared with the previous year:—

Depots.	1875-76.			1876-77.		
	Number admitted into depôts.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths.	Number admitted into depôts.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths.
Demerara	4,465	4	·08	4,746	18	·37
Trinidad	2,014	1	·04	2,160	10	·46
Jamaica	990	10	1·1	.....	.....	.....
Mauritius	929	2	·21	1,274	12	·94
Natal	443	1	·22	796*	.....	.....
Guadeloupe	2,285	12	·52	441	.....	.....
Martinque				.....	.....	...
Total ..	11,126	30	·26	9,417	40	·42

It will be seen that the mortality amongst the emigrants during detention in the various depôts was higher than during the previous year, being ·42 per cent., against ·26 per cent. The increase is due to the occurrence of 18 deaths in the Demerara depôt, 10 in the Trinidad, and 12 in the Mauritius—numbers much in excess of the death-rates at the same depôts in the previous year. (*Note.*—In the printed report for 1875-76 the death-rates at the Trinidad and Demerara depôts are given as ·3 and ·4 respectively. These figures are obviously incorrect, and the percentage of deaths should be ·08 and ·04 respectively.)

There was no fatal epidemic in any of the depôts, and the deaths that occurred were due to the following causes:—

Colonial Depots.	Chest affection.	Cholera.	Fever.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Other diseases.	Over lead.	Total.
Demerara	4	6	2	2	3	1	.....	18
Trinidad	3	1	2	2	.....	.....	2	10
Mauritius	.....	2	.....	1	4	5	.....	12

When this death-rate of ·42 per cent. is compared with the average duration, 29·2 days, of detention in the Calcutta depôts, it will be seen that the percentage of deaths per annum amounts to 5·28, or 52·8 per thousand—rather a high death-rate for a specially selected class, such as cooly emigrants are. The Mauritius depôt gives the highest death-rate, namely 83·6 per thousand per annum.

Taking the previous year, and disregarding the mortality in the French depôt, concerning the average detention in which no figures were furnished, the average annual mortality in the depôts was only 22·8 per thousand—less than half that of the year under report. It will also be seen from the foregoing table that the numbers admitted into the depôts were 1,709 less than during the previous year.

7. *Detention in depôts.*—The following table shows the period of detention of emigrants in the depôt:—

Depôts.	Maximum	Minimum.	Average.	Remarks.
Mauritius	80	2	41	
Demerara	138	2	22	Owing to syphilis.
Natal	91	1	25	Owing to bronchitis and ophthalmia.
Trinidad	151	3	29	Owing to dysentery.
Guadeloupe	75	2	29	
Average	.....	.....	29·2 days	

The provisions of rule 17, requiring the despatch of emigrants if possible within a month from the date of admission into the depôt, were better carried out than during the previous year; the average duration of detention being 29·2 days, against 32·5 days in 1875-76. The average detention in the Mauritius depôt much exceeded the average of the previous year. The special causes of exceptionally long detention are noted in the column of remarks.

8. *Recruitment.*—The following table shows the number of recruiters' licenses granted in 1876-77 and during the previous two years, together with the number and percentage of cancellations:—

Recruiting Agencies.	Licenses.								
	Granted.			Cancelled.					
				1874-75.		1875-76.		1876-77.	
	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number	Percentage.
Mauritius	43	1	15	1	2·32	1	100	1	6·66
Demerara	60	133	129	...	..	9	6·76	5	3·87
Trinidad	52	50	56	1	1·92	4	8	5	8·92
Jamaica	38	25	...	1	2·63	2	8	...	...
Natal	78	47	60	2	2 56	1	2·12	...	...
St. Vincent	6	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..
French colonies	43	70	36	2	4·65	4	5 71	1	2·77
Surinam	...	..	10	...	...	...	..	...	...
Total ...	320	326	306	7	2·18	21	6·44	12	3 92

It will be seen that fewer licenses by 20 were granted during the year, and also that the number cancelled was much less, being 3·92 per cent., against 6·44; the severe measures adopted during the previous year to check irregularities having probably had a deterrent effect upon the recruiters. But I think it is obviously incorrect to compare the relative number of recruiters employed in the different years without reference to the fact that in different years a different number of agencies are working.

However one fact is observable, that with the increased difficulty of obtaining emigrant recruiters no large corresponding increase in the number of recruiters employed has been found necessary by the Emigration Agents. The actual control of the recruiting operations having passed out of the hands of the responsible agents by the increase in the number of irresponsible sub-agents, supervising operations in the districts, it has been found necessary to obtain the orders of Government insisting that these sub-agents shall be licensed men. Till fresh orders are passed on the subject, recognized sub-agents therefore will take out recruiters' licenses, and thus be held responsible by the department for irregularities committed by recruiters under their immediate control. It is to be hoped that by these means the numerous cases of young married and unmarried women and boys who are registered as emigrants and brought down to Calcutta only to be detained and rejected by the Protector of Emigrants or claimed by their relatives will be of less frequent occurrence.

9. *Terms offered by the various British and Foreign Colonies.*—The following table will show that the terms offered have undergone no change.

Colony.	Classification of emigrants.	Period of indenture.	Work.		Wages, minimum rate claimable.	Rations.		Dwelling-house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage, when claimable.
			Nature.	Duration.		Prescribed scale.	Period of supply.			
British Guiana ...	Adult males from 15 and upwards. Males from 10 to 15 and females above 10 years of age.	Five years	Cultivation of the soil, and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours in the fields or ten hours in the buildings in each day.	Rs. A. P. Daily— 24 cents = 0 8 0 16 ,, = 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	For adults of and above 15 years of age, at a cost of two annas and eight pies daily:— Rice ... ... 1½ lb Dal ... ... 4 oz. Cocoanut-oil or ghee... 1 ,, Massala ... ... ¼ ,, Sugar ... ... 2 ,, Salt ... ... ½ ,, For minors of and above 10 and under 15 years of age, half the above quantities at half the cost. For infants under 10 years of age one-third the above quantities free of cost.	From the first date of delivery to any employer until the first day of October then next following.	Free of charge ...	Free of charge.	After ten years' continuous residence in the colony, five of them being under indenture.
Trinidad	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards.	Ditto ..	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and nine hours each day.	Daily— 1s. 0½d. = 0 8 4 Payable fortnightly.	For adults from 10 years and upwards:— Rice ... ... 1 lb } Daily. Dal ... ... 4 oz. } Daily. Ghee or cocoanut-oil... 1 ,, } Daily. Sugar ... ... 2 ,, } Daily. For non-adults from 5 to 10 years, half the above scale.	For two years at a cost of 2 annas and 8 pies per ration. Free of charge.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Jamaica	Adult males from 16 years and upwards. Males from 12 to 16 years, and females of any age.	Ditto ...	Ditto	Ditto ditto ...	Daily— 1s. ... = 0 8 0 9d. ... = 0 6 0 Payable monthly.	For adults— Rice .. .. 1½ lb } Daily. Or corn meal ... ... 2 ,, } Daily. Or cooked cassava ... 2 ,, } Daily. Raw ,, ... 5 ,, } Daily. Raw yams or cocoas ... 4 ,, } Daily. Split peas ... ... 8 ,, } Monthly. Salt fish .. .. 6 ,, } Monthly. Or mutton, beef, or goat's flesh ... ... 8 ,, } Monthly. Ghee ... ... 1 ,, } Monthly. Or sweet or cocoanut oil ... ... 1 pint. } Monthly. Salt ... ... 1 lb } Monthly. Dry pepper or pimento 2 oz. } Monthly. Fuel, sufficient.	For the first three months, or, if necessary, for the whole period of indenture at maximum cost of 3s. 6d. weekly.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Mauritius	Males— Adults above 18 years ,, 15 to 18 ,, ,, 12 to 15 ,, Minors above 10 to 12 years. Females— Adults ... Male return emigrants above 18 years. Male return emigrants above 14 to 19 years.	Ditto	Ditto and domestic service.	Ditto ditto ...	Monthly— 10s. ... =*5 0 0 8s. ... = 4 0 0 6s. ... = 3 0 0 5s. ... = 2 8 0 Daily— 6d. ... = 0 4 0 and rice, or monthly— 6s. ... = 3 0 0 11s. ... =*5 8 0 9s. ... = 4 8 0 Payable monthly.	For adults above 12 years— Rice ... ... 1½ lb } Monthly. Weekly. Pounded maize ... 2 ,, } Monthly. Weekly. Cooked manioc ... 2½ ,, } Monthly. Weekly. Raw ditto ... ... 5 ,, } Monthly. Weekly. Dal ... ... 8 oz. } Monthly. Weekly. Salt fish ... ... 8 ,, } Monthly. Weekly. Ghee or oil ... ... 4 ,, } Monthly. Weekly. Salt ... . 4 ,, } Monthly. Weekly.	For whole period of indenture.	Ditto ..	Ditto ...	Not provided by the colony.

Natal	Adult males of and above the age of 15 years.	Ditto ...	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in each week, holidays excepted, and eight hours in each day.	Monthly[a]— 1st year ... 5 0 0 2nd „ ... 5 8 0 3rd „ ... 6 0 0 4th „ .. 6 8 0 5th „ ... 7 0 0	For adults— 1½ lb rice, or for three days in the week, as substitute for rice, 2 lb of pounded maize. Monthly— Dal ... ... 2 lb Salt fish ... ... 2 „ Ghee or oil ... ... 1 „ Salt ... ... 1 „ For non-adults, of the age of one year and upwards, half the above scale.	Ditto ditto ..	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	After ten years' residence, five of them being under indenture.
	Adult females of and above the age of 15 years.	.....	.....	.....	Half the above rates					
French Colonies ...	Adult males of 16 years and upwards. Adult females of 14 years and upwards. Males from 11 to 16 years, and females from 11 to 14 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto .	Monthly ... 5 0 0 Ditto ... 4 0 0 Ditto .. 2 0 0 Payable weekly. Also two suits of clothes each year.	Rice, manioc, flour, salt-fish, ghee or oil, salt, &c., in the quantities fixed by Government regulations ... ... } Daily.	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	After five years' service under indenture.

[a] These rates are subject to yearly increments of eight annas.

It would appear, from the continued falling off in the number of persons willing to emigrate to the colonies, that the terms offered are not sufficiently attractive in all cases.

The colony which offers the most advantageous terms appears to be Trinidad; and it will be found that, notwithstanding the falling off in the numbers of intending emigrants during the past two years, Trinidad each year has obtained as many immigrants as the colony required. The Mauritius comes next, but there is a considerable difference between the number required and the number obtained; still the short voyage, the good reputation of the island, as reported by the numerous returned emigrants, the fair wages, and other conditions, make this colony apparently still popular.

Demerara, requiring 12,000 immigrants during the past two years, has obtained but 7,208; Natal, requiring 6,730, has obtained only 1,077 during the two years; Guadeloupe, which obtained the full number required in 1875-76, only succeeded in obtaining one-fourth of her requirements in the year under review.

The free return passage offered after five years to emigrants to the French colonies, no doubt is an attraction which counterbalances the fact that the actual wages offered are smaller than for any other British or Foreign colony.

With reference to the manner in which this condition is carried out, but little information has reached this office. The latest information received relating to the condition of immigrants in the island of Guadeloupe is contained in a report from the British Vice-Consul at Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, dated 25th February 1876. From this report it would appear that from the year 1854 up to the date of writing 24,291 adult immigrants had been received into the island: of these 8,972 had died, 396 had absconded, and 1,380 had been repatriated, leaving a balance of 13,543 still in the island. It would appear, however, that since the year 1871 not a sufficient number of time-expired immigrants have presented themselves to lead to the chartering of a vessel (to quote the words of the report). It would also appear that during the year 1875 no less than 1,200 immigrants terminated their engagements; but all renewed them in consequence of advantages granted them by their employers. These advantages appear to be under a fresh engagement a bonus of £2 sterling, and an increase of the monthly wage from 10 to 12 shillings, which increase may be commuted into a sum down of from £4 to £8. Also, if the immigrant renounce his right to repatriation, he is entitled to a further sum equivalent to the price of his passage home. If the immigrant, on the termination of his engagement, does not re-engage, but, under certain conditions, is allowed to reside in the island, he forfeits his right to repatriation. This right is also forfeited by any correctional or criminal conviction during the term of indenture.

The report of the Vice-Consul throws very little light on this as on the other important subjects connected with the condition of the coolies in the island; but although it is not actually so stated, there are apparently considerable difficulties in the way of coolies returning to their native land. Information on this point is needed, in face of the statement that for the past four or five years no immigrants have returned or been able to return. It is worthy of note that while the British Vice-Consul in his report, dated Guadeloupe, 25th February 1876, distinctly asserts that the right to repatriation is forfeited by correctional or criminal condemnation, the Emigration Agent in Calcutta for the French colonies, in a letter dated 8th May 1876, in reply to a question, informed this office that this section, under article 2 of the law passed by the French Government in 1852, relating to immigration into the French colonies, was no longer in force.

The last two reports received relative to the condition of the Indian coolies in the colony of Cayenne are most unsatisfactory. Emigration to this colony was stopped in September 1876, in consequence of these reports.

The following table shows the number of emigrants required by the various colonies during the past two years, and the number of emigrants actually despatched :—

Colonies	1875-76.			1876-77.			Remarks.
	Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	Number despatched represented as		Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	Number despatched represented as		
		Statute adults	Souls.		Statute adults.	Souls.	
Demerara	6,000	3,540½	3,849	6,000	3,667½	3,992	Owing to the great difficulty in procuring emigrants, it was found impossible to supply the required number during the emigration season
Trinidad	1,500	1,498½	1,653	1,500	1,507½	1,601	
Jamaica	700	705	767	..	.....	.....	
Mauritius	798	673	739	1,385	915	1,027	The balance is in course of collection, but the work proceeds slowly owing to the increasing difficulty in procuring coolies
Natal	4,000	362½	393	2,730	715	761	
Guadeloupe	1,264	1,264½	1,329	1,350	333½	353	
Martinique	498	498½	521	.....	...	....	
Total	14,760	8,542½	9,251	12,965	7,138½	7,734	

Of the 7,734 emigrants who left this port during the past season, 254 were returned emigrants, who re-emigrated to the different colonies as shown below :—

Colonies	Number who re-emigrated as labourers.	
Mauritius	95	
Demerara	116	Besides 14 persons paid their own passage.
Trinidad	23	„ 8 ditto ditto
Natal	14	
Guadeloupe	6	
Total ...	254	

The number compares favourably with 172 persons who re-emigrated in 1875-76.

Besides the above, 14 persons returned to Demerara and eight to Trinidad as private passengers, paying their own passage money.

10. *Intending emigrants.*—The number of intending emigrants originally registered for the several colonies in the various districts during the past year is for the first time shown in the present report, the figures in the 2nd column being gathered from the reports of the registering officers.

Colonies.	Number originally registered in the various districts as per Magistrates' reports.	Number admitted into the depots.	Loss between the place of registration and the Calcutta depôt
Demerara	3,755	4,746	A gain !!
Trinidad	1;800	2,160	„
Mauritius.	961	1,274	„
Natal	1,094	796	A loss
Guadeloupe	465	441	„
Total ...	8,075	9,417	

It will be seen from the above statement how impossible it is for this department to supply the information so repeatedly called for by Government whilst the district officers who register the intending emigrants neglect to send early and accurate reports to the Emigration Office of all registrations effected

by them. For instance, into the Demerara depôt were admitted apparently 1,000 more emigrants than were registered for the colony.

The attention of all registering officers should be urgently called to this point, as I have failed to obtain the required information from the Emigration Agents.

Following the history of the emigrants from the time of registration to that of embarkation, the next statement shows the number in the depôts on the 1st April 1876, the number admitted during the year, the losses from all causes, the number embarked, and the balance remaining in the depôts on the 31st March 1877.

Colonies.	Balance for last year.	Number admitted into depôt.	Total.	Number released and rejected.	Number absconded.	Number of deaths.	Number of coolies despatched.	Balance after the close of the year.	Percentage of released and rejected.	Percentage of absconded.	Percentage of death.
Mauritius	69	1,274	1,343	97	191	12	1,027	16	7·22	14 22	·89
Natal	10	796	806	40	5	...	761	...	4·96	·62	.
Demerara	100	4,746	4,846	508	214	18	3,992	114	10·48	4·41	·37
Trinidad	55	2,160	2,215	379	91	10	1,601	134	17·11	4·10	·45
Guadeloupe	62	441	503	89	·8	...	353	53	17·69	1·59	...
Jamaica	42	...	42	42	...	...		...	...	...	.
	338	9,417	9,755	1,155	509	40	7,734	317	11·84	5·21	·41

It will be seen that the percentage of loss from all causes during detention in the depôts was heavy; and on referring to the statistics of past years the percentage of loss from rejections for 1876-77 will be found much greater than usual, owing to the bad class of coolie recruited.

	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.
Rejected or released from engagement ...	6·6	7·41	11·84
Absconded	5	5·93	5·21
Died	·33	·26	·41

As to the loss from desertion, the remarks made in last year's report apply equally to the year under review. With regard to the large percentage, 14·22, recorded under this head against the Mauritius depôt, it may be stated that intending emigrants are allowed great liberty while awaiting embarkation at this depôt, and this privilege is abused by many apparently.

Also with regard to the 17·11 per cent. of releases and rejections at the Trinidad depôt. None but thoroughly good emigrants are sent to Trinidad, on account of the facility with which labourers are procurable for this colony. All recruits, therefore, who do not fully answer the demands of the agency are released from their engagements and returned to their homes or place of registration.

The death-rate has already been noticed in the paragraph on "depôts."

The rule laying down the proportion of women to men at a minimum of 40 per cent. was better complied with than during the previous year. None, however, of the large deficiency of women amongst the emigrants shipped to Guadeloupe in 1875-76 was made good in 1876-77. The Agent, however, hopes to make good the deficiency during the present year.

Colonies.	Men.	Women.	Proportion.	Deficiency at the close of the previous year.	Deficiency made up during the year.	Deficiency remaining at the close of the year.
Mauritius	591	279	47 20	32	32	None.
Demerara	2,470	1,063	43·03	115	75	40
Trinidad	993	471	46·42	.....	.. ...	...
Natal	498	196	39 35	.....	.....	3
Guadeloupe	232	93	40 08	192	.....	192

The emigrants actually despatched to the various colonies were recruited as shown by the following table, which gives the various districts in their relative order of importance as supply-markets:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Number of souls despatched for the colonies.					
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Natal.	Guadaloupe.	Total.
North-Western Provinces...	Allahabad, Azimghur, Mirsapore, Benares, Ghazeepore, Goruckpore, Meerut, Cawnpore, Barielly, Agra, Jhansi, Jounpore.	393	1,520	703	256	103	2,975
Behar ...	Patna, Gya, Arrah, Sarun, Tirhoot, Chumparun, Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Purneah.	466	1,111	436	230	203	2,446
Oudh	Lucknow, Seetapore, Sultanpore, Fyzabad, and Roy Barielly.	31	840	208	203	22	1,304
Bengal	Calcutta, 24-Pergunnahs, Howrah, Nuddea, Burdwan, Moorshedabad, Jessore, Pubna, Rungpore, Cooch Behar, Chota Nagpore, Bankoora, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Dacca, Mymensingh, Backergunge, and Furreedpore.	109	172	167	17	5	470
Miscellaneous, Madras and Bombay, &c.	Unknown	11	179	52	18	6	266
Central India ..	Indore, Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Raipore, Rewah, and Gwalior.	7	89	7	3	2	108
Native States .	Unknown	7	50	5	23	9	94
Punjab and Dependencies .	Delhi, Umballa, Jullunder, Umritsur, Lahore, Peshwar, Ferozepore, Guzerat.	.....	24	13	11	3	51
Orissa .	Cuttack, Balasore, and Pooree ...	3	7	10	.....	.....	20
	Total ...	1,027	3,992	1,601	761	353	7,734

11. *Emigrant vessels.*—The subjoined table shows that 18 sailing ships left the port during the past year, carrying an average of 429 emigrants—

Colonies.	Ships left this port in—						Number of souls.	Average number of souls per ship.
	1875-76.			1876-77.				
	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.		
Demerara	8	.....	8	8	.....	8	3,992	499
Trinidad	3	.....	3	3	.....	3	1,601	534
Jamaica	2	.....	2	0	.....	0	.....	.....
Mauritius	2	.....	2	4	.....	4	1,027	257
Natal	1	.....	1	2	.....	2	761	380½
French Colonies	4	.....	4	1	.....	1	353	353
Total ...	20	.....	20	18	.....	18	7,734	429¾

Detailed information is given below regarding each vessel, and includes amongst other particulars the length of passage and the mortality occurring during each voyage:—

Number.	Name of vessel.	Colonies to which emigrants were conveyed.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure.	Date of arrival at destination.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.
1	"Merchantman"	Natal ...	G. Stewart ...	30th April 1876 ...	20th June 1876 ...	52	377	5	1·32
2	"St. Kilda" ...	Ditto ...	W. C. Penn ...	4th June ,, ...	23rd July ,, ...	49	384	5	1·30
3	"Canada" ...	Mauritius ...	D. M. Renaud ...	13th July ,, ...	15th Sept. ,, ...	64	209	...	.....
4	"Linguist" ...	Demerara ...	J. G. Winstone ...	2nd August ,, ...	20th October ,, ...	78	600	3	50
5	"Foyle" ...	Trinidad ...	W. Holman ...	,, ,, ...	3rd November ,, ...	94	538	11	2·04
6	"Artist" ...	Demerara ...	R. Whitelam ...	26th ,, ,, ...	29th ,, ,, ...	98	521	9	1·72
7	"Jorawur" ...	Trinidad ...	C. Chapman ...	29th ,, ,, ...	29th ,, ,, ...	91	616	17	2·75
8	"Jura" ...	Demerara ...	J. S. Ireland ...	10th October ,, ...	18th January 1877 ..	105	543	10	1·83
9	"Latona" ...	Mauritius ...	L. M. Gregoire ...	20th ,, ,, ...	17th November 1876	27	294	2	68
10	"Syria" ...	Trinidad ...	P. Hughes ...	31st ,, ,, ...	28th January 1877 ...	89	447	...	.....
11	"Ailsa" ...	Demerara ...	G. Stewart ...	5th November ,, ...	27th ,, ,, ...	84	495	9	1·81
12	"Neva" ...	Ditto ...	T. Thorp ...	2nd December ,, ...	25th February ,, ...	85	461	4	86
13	"Merchantman"	Mauritius ...	F. Brun ...	22nd ,, ,, ...	21st January ,, ...	30	305	3	99
14	"Pandora" ...	Demerara ...	F. E. West ...	10th January 1877 ...	13th April ,, ...	92	486	1	20
15	"Killochan" ...	Guadeloupe ...	L. Ercole ...	15th ,, ,, ...	Not known ..		353		.....
16	"King Arthur"	Demerara ...	R. Rivers ...	1st February ,, ...	Ditto ...		458	..	.....
17	"Rohilla" ...	Ditto ...	J. G. Winstone ...	26th ,, ,, ...	Ditto ...		430		.....
18	"Allumghier"...	Mauritius ...	Shaik Hossenny ...	27th March ,, ...	Ditto ...		219	.	.....

The annual report being submitted this year many months earlier than in previous years, it is impossible to include in it information relating to the

vessels which left this port towards the close of the season, and concerning whose arrival no intelligence has as yet been received.

The death-rate for the vessels whose arrivals have been reported to this office has been low—an average of 1·38 per cent. The vessel showing the highest mortality for the year is the *Jorawur*, on which the death-rate was 2·75. Of the 17 deaths, four were of infants a few days' old, and nine were caused by measles and the sequelæ of that disease. A special report relating to this outbreak was submitted with this office No. 496, of the 6th ultimo. With this exception no epidemic occurred on any emigrant vessel. All ships leaving the port with emigrants were carefully and repeatedly examined, and every arrangement made for the safety and comfort of the emigrants.

12. *Return emigrants.*—The next statement exhibits the number of emigrants who returned from the various colonies, the amount of their acknowledged savings, and the mortality during the return voyage.

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average percentage of mortality.		Savings. Aggregate amount.	Savings. Average amount.
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	5	1,328	·98	13	2,05,206 0 0	154 12 1
Demerara	2	868	3·45	30	1,18,683 7 2	136 11 8
Jamaica	1	247	2·02	5	13,875 10 8	56 2 5
Trinidad	1 and mail str. 1	485	1·85	9	1,83,982 3 10	379 5 6
Natal	1	5	.....	.....	None.	.....
Total ...	11	2,931	1·94	57	5,21,747 5 8	178 0 1

The above average gives no idea of the amounts brought back by some individuals. An emigrant who returned from Trinidad a few weeks ago after 12 years' residence in the island brought with him Rs. 15,000, 140 sovereigns, and a quantity of jewellery. He purposed paying a visit to his relatives in the North-Western Provinces and returning to Trinidad almost immediately.

Detailed information regarding each of the ships bringing back emigrants to India is given below :—

Name of vessel.	Colonies from which emigrants returned.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure from colonies.	Date of arrival at Calcutta.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.
1. "St. Kilda" ...	Demerara ...	W. C. Penn ...	28th Dec. 1875 ...	23rd April 1876 ...	118	390	12	3·07
2. "Canada" ...	Mauritius ...	G. Fropier ...	29th April 1876 ..	25th May ,, ...	27	345	2	·57
3 "Chetah" ..	Jamaica ...	W. K. Stephens ...	31st May ,, ...	29th Sept. ,, ...	122	247	5	2 02
4. "Allumghier"...	Mauritius ...	L. M. Gregoire ...	8th June ,, ...	9th July ,, ...	32	285	5	1·75
5. "Latona" ...	Ditto ...	A. Noel ...	1st July ,, ...	27th ,, ,, ...	27	122	1	·81
6. "Rohilla" ...	Demerara ...	L. T. Allard ...	7th Sept. ,, ...	3rd January 1877 ...	119	478	18	3·84
7. "Glenroy" ...	Mauritius ...	F. C. Brun ...	29th ,, ,, ...	15th Nov. 1876 ...	48	308	3	·97
8. "Umvati" ..	Natal ...	G. W. Bell ...	9th ,, ,, ...	4th Dec. ,, ...	87	5	...	.....
9. "Jumna," & by mail steamer.	Trinidad ...	J. M. Barry ...	28th October ,, ...	24th Feb. 1877 ...	120	484	9	1·89
10. "Canada"	Mauritius ...	G. Fropier ..	31st ,, ,, ...	23rd Dec. 1876 ...	54	266	2	·75

In no instance, it will be seen, was there an excessive death-rate; and with this should be borne in mind that invalids are often shipped for return to their homes in India, while all on the outward voyage are put on board in sound health.

With regard to returned emigrants, Dr. Grant, before taking furlough, left a note which may well be incorporated with the present report:—

"There is one point on which I cannot help expressing the opinion that it would be advisable for the Colonial Authorities to consider. All pauper emigrants are returned to their homes at the expense of colony from which they are returned; but in some instances, these paupers are not merely poor, but absolutely without the natural means of earning a livelihood. For example, a man arrived here from Demerara in the *Rohilla* absolutely without his arms; both arms having been lost by accident when employed working at or near

some machinery. This is a case which, I think, deserves special provision being made for it. The case was referred to the colony, and will, I trust, be liberally dealt with, but I think that proper provision should be made *in anticipation* for the support of emigrants who have lost their limbs in the service of their colonial employers.

"Either the coolies themselves or their employers might be required to subscribe to a pension fund for the support of such cases. It is clearly to the interest of the employers to see to this, for (apart from the question of humanity) it is clear that the return to his native village of one such coolie, utterly unprovided for, would go far towards neutralising all the persuasive powers of the most successful recruiters; whereas, if liberally pensioned, the occasional return of such cases would not be prejudicial to the interests of the colonies."

13. *Financial statement.*—I regret that it is impossible to submit with the present report an account of the receipts and charges in connection with the working of the department. The information required for such a statement has to be collected from reports received from all the different places of registration and from the Accountant-General's Office. Such reports are at present most incomplete, very few having been received up to date. A special report will be submitted, however, as soon as the necessary information has been collected.

In conclusion, I have the honor to submit the following returns for the year 1876-77:—

1. Annual return of emigrants despatched to Demerara.
2. Ditto ditto ditto Trinidad.
3. Ditto ditto ditto Natal.
4. Ditto ditto ditto Mauritius.
5. Ditto ditto ditto Guadeloupe.
6. Table exhibiting number of emigrants to and from the West India Colonies.
7. Ditto ditto ditto Mauritius and Natal.

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian emigrants who have left Calcutta for Mauritius and Natal during the year 1876-77, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

	1876-77.		
	Mauritius.	Natal.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
Embarked—			
Men	591	498	1,089
Women	279	196	475
Children—			
Boys	44	30	74
Girls	46	12	58
Infants—			
Boys	24	10	34
Girls	43	15	58
Total number of souls	1,027	761	1,788
Ditto of statute adults ...	915	715	1,630
Returned—			
Men	879	2	881
Women	243	2	245
Children—			
Boys	98	...	98
Girls	78	1	79
Infants—			
Boys	15	...	15
Girls	13	...	13
Total number of souls	1,326	5	1,331
Ditto of statute adults ...	1,219⅛	4½	1,223⅝
			Rs.
Amount of savings brought by return emigrants ...			2,05,206

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian emigrants who have left Calcutta for the West Indies during the year 1876-77, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

	1876-77.				
	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	Guadeloupe.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Embarked—					
Men	2,470	993		232	3,695
Women	1,063	471	.....	93	1,627
Children—					
Boys	178	44	.....	11	233
Girls	91	43	.....	6	140
Infants—					
Boys	95	28	.....	6	124
Girls	95	27	.....	5	127
Total number of souls	3,992	1,601	.....	35	5,946
Ditto of statute adults	3,667½	1,507½	.....	333½	5,508½
Returned—					
Men	498	271	178	.....	947
Women	199	102	42	.....	343
Children—					
Boys	75	44	14	.	133
Girls	63	41	11	.....	115
Infants—					
Boys	17	12	1		30
Girls	16	14	1	...	31
Total number of souls	868	484	247	.....	1,599
Ditto of statute adults	766	415½	232½	.....	1,414
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Amount of savings brought by return emigrants	1,16,683 7 2	1,83,982 3 10	13,875 10 8	..	3,16,541 5 8

Annual Return of Emigrants despatched to Demerara, Trinidad, Natal, Mauritius, and Gaudeloupe during the year 1876-77.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Natal.			Mauritius.			Guadeloupe.			Grand Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 2 years	95	95	190	23	27	50	10	15	25	24	43	67	6	5	11	158	185	343
From 2 to 10	178	91	269	44	43	87	30	12	42	44	46	90	11	6	17	307	198	505
„ 10 to 20	704	289	993	296	86	382	138	52	190	129	87	216	57	21	78	1,324	535	1,859
„ 20 to 30	1,537	685	2,222	617	354	971	289	132	421	295	121	416	168	63	231	2,906	1,355	4,261
„ 30 to 40	215	83	298	74	26	100	70	12	82	166	69	235	5	8	13	530	198	728
„ 40 to 50	14	5	19	6	5	11	1	..	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	23	12	35
Above 50 years	1	1	1					...			1	1	1		1	1	2	3
Grand Total	2,743	1,249	3,992	1,060	541	1,601	538	223	761	659	368	1,027	249	104	353	5,249	2,485	7,734

No. 2.—As to places whence Emigrants came to Calcutta for Embarkation.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Natal.			Mauritius.			Guadeloupe.			Grand Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.
Orissa	6	1	7	6	4	10	...	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	14	6	20
Western Bengal ...	45	47	92	17	51	68	2	4	6	43	38	81	1	...	1	108	140	248
Central „ ...	37	38	75	27	55	82	1	5	6	10	16	26	4	...	4	79	114	193
Eastern „ ...	5	...	5	16	1	17	4	1	5	2	...	2	...	...	...	27	2	29
Behar	733	378	1,111	313	123	436	160	70	230	298	168	466	136	67	203	1,640	806	2,446
N.-W. Provinces ...	1,057	463	1,520	475	228	703	172	84	256	263	130	393	73	30	103	2,040	935	2,975
Oudh	599	241	840	155	53	208	160	43	203	21	10	31	17	5	22	952	352	1,304
Central India ...	68	21	89	4	3	7	3	...	3	7	...	7	2	...	2	84	24	108
Punjab	23	1	24	13	...	13	8	3	11	...	...	...	3	...	3	47	4	51
Nepal	44	6	50	2	3	5	16	7	23	7	...	7	7	2	9	76	18	94
Mix, Madras and Bombay, &c.	126	53	179	32	20	52	12	6	18	6	5	11	6	...	6	182	84	266
Grand Total ...	2,743	1,249	3,992	1,060	541	1,601	538	223	761	659	368	1,027	249	104	353	5,249	2,485	7,734

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Brahmins, high caste		473	189	662	182	70	252	84	27	111	101	30	131	47	21	68	887	337	1,224
Agriculturist	Hindoos.	729	269	998	289	158	447	170	67	237	163	93	256	65	18	83	1,416	595	2,011
Artisans ...	Hindoos.	220	103	323	97	56	153	44	11	55	86	45	131	26	8	34	473	223	696
Low castes ...	Hindoos.	933	391	1,324	389	168	557	162	83	245	214	139	353	79	36	115	1,727	817	2,544
Mussulmans		384	293	677	152	89	241	78	45	123	95	61	156	31	21	52	740	509	1,249
Christians		4	4	8	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	6	4	10
Grand Total ...		2,743	1,249	3,992	1,060	541	1,601	538	223	761	659	368	1,027	249	104	353	5,249	2,485	7,734

Memorandum.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Hindoos	4,503	1,972	6,475
2. Mussulmans	740	509	1,249
3. Christians	6	4	10
Total ...	5,249	2,485	7,734

C. H. JOUBERT, M.B.,

Offg. Protector of Emigrants.

1*st August* 1877.

d

W. H. D'C.—Rept No. 11560—208—17-8-77.

EMIGRATION.

DARJEELING, THE 5TH SEPTEMBER 1877.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The Report of the Protector of Emigrants on Emigration to British and Foreign Colonies during the year ending 31st March 1877.

Read again—

The Reports of the two previous years, with the orders of Government thereon.

IN colonial, as in inland, emigration the operations of the past year show a remarkable falling off compared with the results of previous years. The number of emigrants despatched to the colonies was 24,569 in 1873-74, 20,230 in 1874-75, 9,251 in 1875-76, and only 7,734 in 1876-77. The stimulus experienced in the two former years was undoubtedly owing to the scarcity, which was to some extent felt in all the districts from which the great majority of the recruits for transmarine emigration are collected; but, on the other hand, the plentiful harvests of the past two years will not entirely account for the remarkable slackness in colonial emigration which has since supervened. The last annual report of the Superintendent of Emigration shows that Assam is beginning to compete successfully with the colonies in procuring labourers from Behar and the Upper Provinces. Unfortunately, the statistics show that, with increasing demand for labour both in this country and abroad, and competition among recruiters, the supply, though practically unlimited, is becoming less and less accessible, and that greater inducements are year by year becoming necessary to prevail on the people to leave their homes. The Lieutenant-Governor wishes that those interested in either form of emigration would recognize the fact that this is the result of excessive eagerness, not unfrequently accompanied by unscrupulous fraud, on the part of the recruiters, and that the surest way of increasing the available supply of labourers is a rigid enforcement of the checks which the law provides for the control of the subordinate agency.

2. Mr. Eden considers that the decrease in the number of emigrants to the colonies is a matter for regret. He believes that it would be a great gain to the country if the yearly demands of the British colonies at least could be fully met. The greatly improved circumstances of the many labourers who return to their homes with considerable savings, enlarged ideas, and some education, show how great are the advantages to the Indian emigrant of a short residence in the colonies. Dr. Joubert reports that one emigrant recently returned from a stay of twelve years in Trinidad with savings amounting to nearly Rs. 17,000, besides a quantity of valuables. During the past year no less than 254 persons again emigrated, and in addition to these, 14 paid their own return passages to Demerara and 8 to Trinidad. There can be little doubt that, if recruiting operations were generally conducted with ordinary moderation and honesty, the full number of labourers annually required for the British colonies could be procured.

3. The subjoined table shows the most prominent results of the year's operations compared with those of the two previous years :—

	1874-75.	1875-76	1876-77
Number of emigrants required by the colonies ...	...	14,760	12,965
„ „ admitted to the depôts .. .	23,393	11,126	9,417
„ „ despatched to the colonies	20,230	9,251	7,734
„ „ returned from ditto	3,534	2,674	2,931
„ rejected or released from depôts	1,560	826	1,155
Percentage	6 6	7 41	11 84
Number absconded from depôts .. .	1,178	660	5 09
Percentage	5	5 93	5 21
Death-rate per cent. in depôts	33	26	41

4. Altogether 306 licenses were granted during the year to the emigration agents of six colonies, against 326 to six agencies in the previous year. In 1876 77, 12 licenses were cancelled, against 21 in 1875-76. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets, however, that he cannot accept this as evidence of an improvement in the conduct of those employed in collecting emigrants. The nature of their business and the very extensive area over which their operations are conducted have rendered it impossible for the emigration agents to exercise anything like efficient local control over their recruiters. They have been compelled to employ sub agents to look after their interests in the principal recruiting centres. The existing law contains no provision for the recognition and control of these persons. Nevertheless, their employment is absolutely necessary, and it is by their honesty and vigilance, rather than by the goodwill of the emigration agents, that the operations of the recruiters can be effectually controlled. Hitherto, unfortunately, these qualities have not been exhibited by them, and they have in many instances taken advantage of their irresponsibility under the law to countenance, if not to suggest, malpractices on the part of the recruiters. Mr. Eden has recently decided that, pending the amendment of the law, these sub-agents should be made amenable to control by requiring them formally to take out licenses as recruiters. At the same time, Magistrates have been instructed not to enforce in their respect the section of the law which requires recruiters to wear badges. The Lieutenant-Governor has every reason to believe that if emigration agents were to exert themselves to procure for these posts respectable men who would work honestly under the supervision of the Magistrates, the results would be very different. The want of co-operation on the part of Magistrates, of which the agents so often complain, is attributable to a not unnatural distrust and suspicion of the subordinate agency now employed.

5. The returns for the past year, which have been abstracted above, show that the action of the local sub-agents has been positively mischievous. Out of 9,755 persons received in depôt, including 338 remaining from the previous year, no less than 1,155, or 11·84 per cent., were either rejected by the medical inspector or emigration agents, or released from their engagements by the Protector. These figures bear evidence of great abuses in the process of recruiting. The percentage of rejections and releases ranges from 4·96 in the Natal agency to 17·11 and 17·69 in those of Trinidad and Guadeloupe respectively. In explanation of the high percentage at the Trinidad depôt, Dr. Joubert states that only thoroughly good emigrants are despatched to that colony, as, in consequence of its popularity, labourers are easily procurable for it. This, however, is no excuse for the recruitment of labourers who are certain to be rejected. If the standard is raised so high and the facilities are so great, there should be the less temptation on the part of recruiters to swell the number of their recruits by persons who are not qualified to meet the requirements of the colony. This is a matter which should be fully within the control of the Emigration Agent for Trinidad. The Lieutenant-Governor would like to know if any of the labourers rejected at the Trinidad agency were afterwards accepted at any of the other colonial depôts. No explanation has been offered of the high percentage of rejections and releases among the labourers recruited for Guadeloupe Mr. Eden considers it highly discreditable to all concerned. His Honor will have occasion to remark further on upon some unsatisfactory features connected with emigration to this French colony. The increasing number of coolies released or rejected at the depôts appears to Mr. Eden to call for the adoption of special measures against the recruiters and sub-agents concerned. He desires that in future the Superintendent will note carefully the name of the recruiter and sub-agent through whose hands each labourer who absconds on the way to Calcutta or from the depôts, or who is rejected or released, has passed. It will be necessary to suspend the licenses of all who are shown to have participated in the recruitment of any large number of labourers who are subsequently found unfit or unwilling to emigrate. A warning to this effect should at once be conveyed to all emigration agents.

6. In the resolution on the report for 1875-76, Sir Richard Temple noticed the neglect of the registering officers in the interior to report to the Superintendent all registrations effected by them. It appears that during the past year there has been no improvement in this respect. The total number of emigrants received in depôts actually exceeded by 1,342 the number shown by the Magistrates' reports to have been originally registered. It is clear that without a knowledge of the number originally recruited, and of the number who abscond on the way to Calcutta, it is impossible for Government to gauge the extent to which improper recruiting is practised It appears that the Emigration Agents are disinclined or unable to give the desired information. It was pointed out in the last resolution that the law requires Magistrates on registering emigrants to submit to the Protector copies of the entries made by them. The attention of all district officers in Bengal will now again be directed to this important matter, and other Governments will be addressed with a view to the issue of similar orders. Meanwhile, the Superintendent will be good enough to compare the statements received with the number of persons admitted to depôt, and to report from what districts those emigrants came regarding whom no reports were received.

7. Of the labourers received in the depôts 5·21 per cent. absconded. This result is chiefly to be attributed to the large number (14·22 per cent.) of desertions among the coolies recruited for Mauritius Dr. Joubert explains that intending emigrants are allowed great liberty while awaiting embarkation at this depôt, and that the privilege is apparently abused. This explanation is somewhat hesitatingly offered, and the Lieutenant-Governor is unable to accept it as satisfactory. Depôts should not be looked upon as prisons, and under the law every emigrant has full liberty to change his mind up to the time when he enters formally into his engagement. After making allowance for the number of persons who accompany recruiters merely to secure a free journey to Calcutta, the Lieutenant-Governor cannot but recognise in the large number of labourers who absconded from the Mauritius depôt unmistakeable proof that many were improperly recruited.

8. Altogether 40 deaths, or ·42 per cent., occurred among the coolies after admission to depôt. As the average duration of detention in depôt was only 29·2 days, the death-rate amounts to 52·8 per mille per annum, which, as the Superintendent observes, is high for a class supposed to be specially selected. It is not stated whether all the deaths occurred after the labourers had been seen and passed by the medical inspector or not, and it is obviously important that this should be known. Out of the 40, 7 died of "chest affection" and 6 of "other diseases." In the absence of special explanation, it would appear that these persons should not have been passed by the medical officers of the districts in which they were recruited.

9. Dr. Grant, who hold the office of Protector throughout the year, expresses himself as perfectly satisfied with the cleanliness of the depôts and with all the arrangements made for the health and comfort of the emigrants. The emigration agents all reside at their depôts, and the Lieutenant-Governor believes that Dr. Grant's remarks on the excellence of their management are quite deserved. Judged by the returns, it would seem that the operations of the Natal agency were most satisfactorily conducted. That depôt shows by far the lowest percentage of rejections and releases and of desertions, and no deaths occurred among the 806 emigrants admitted to it.

10. Emigrants were detained on the average 29·2 days in the depôts, so that the provisions of Rule 17, which requires the despatch of emigrants within one month of admission to depôt, if possible, were in most instances complied with. In the Mauritius agency, however, the average length of detention was 41 days. No explanation is offered on this point. Possibly the excessive number of desertions from this depôt may be attributed in some degree to the length of time passed by the intending emigrants in idleness and comparative confinement and inability to improve their condition.

11. At the beginning of the year the Mauritius, Demerara, and Guadeloupe agencies had still a number of women to despatch in order to make up the required proportion of 40 per cent. The Mauritius agency made up its deficiency in full during the year; that of the Demerara agency was reduced from 115 to 40. No surplus of women was despatched to Guadeloupe, and the deficiency remained at 192 at the close of the year. It has, however, been brought to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice that special efforts have since been made to complete the number required by the rule.

12. The following table shows the number of statute adult emigrants required by the different colonies during the past year, and the number of emigrants actually despatched :—

Colony.	Number of statute adults required.	Number despatched represented as	
		Statute adults	Souls.
Demerara	6 000	3,667½	3,992
Trinidad	1,500	1,507½	1,601
Mauritius	1,385	915	1,027
Natal	2,730	715	761
Guadeloupe	1,350	383½	353
Total	12,965	7,188½	7,784

13. It will be observed that Jamaica, which has hitherto taken a regular annual supply of labourers, did not require any during the past year. Emigration to Cayenne, or French Guiana, was stopped during the past year, in consequence of the unsatisfactory reports received of the condition of the Indian immigrants in that colony. The prohibition on emigration to Surinam; or Dutch Guiana, was still in force during the year: it has since been partially removed. Trinidad was the only colony which succeeded in obtaining the full number of emigrants required. To Demerara and Mauritius not much more than half of the number which those colonies sought to obtain was despatched. Natal could only procure 715 out of 2,730 indented for. This colony has obtained a number of labourers from Madras, but in Bengal it appears unable to compete with Mauritius and the West Indian Colonies, which are better known to the people. The latest information shows that, since the Commission of 1872 submitted its report, the condition of the Indian labourers in Natal has been most satisfactory. A retired Indian officer has been appointed Protector of Immigrants, and many of the labourers who have worked out their term of indenture have adopted lucrative trades in the neighbourhood of the chief towns. It is probable that, as its excellent climate, comparative proximity to India, and general prosperity are more generally known, Natal will have no difficulty in procuring the labourers it requires. The condition of Indian subjects in Cayenne and Guadeloupe is a matter for grave concern. One of the great inducements to labourers to proceed to those colonies has hitherto been the promise of a free return passage after five years of service. Recent reports, however, show that this advantage is not really enjoyed. On the 25th February 1876 there were 13,543 adult Indian immigrants in Guadeloupe, of whom a large number must have completed their term of indenture and become entitled to return passages. During the year 1875 no less than 1,200 immigrants terminated their engagements. It is stated that all these renewed their engagements, but the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that some special explanation is required to account for the fact that during the past five years no Bengal emigrants have returned to their homes from Guadeloupe. In Cayenne it appears that the coolies only labour 14 days in the month. There must clearly be something wrong in the system of tasks and payment for work, for Mr. Eden believes that no labourer works more willingly than the Indian if it is made his interest to do so. The experience of the other colonies shows that, with liberal rates of wages, the coolies are excellent and industrious labourers. The result of the system pursued in Cayenne is that the immigrant's first indenture for five years, or 1,560 days, cannot expire until he has passed some ten years in the colony,

and that he is as poor at the end of the term as he was at the beginning. But this is not all. It appears that the privilege of a free return passage is withheld after it has been earned. The British Consul reports that throughout the years 1875 and 1876 there were 238 immigrants awaiting an opportunity to return to India, yet that not one was able to leave the colony, though it is evident that the number was sufficient to fill a vessel if one had been chartered for their use. There are at present nearly 4,000 Indian labourers in Cayenne, and it is feared that the condition of all is far from satisfactory. Mr. Eden would be glad to see a specially selected officer deputed to report on the condition of Indian immigrants in all the colonies to which they have been despatched. At present the Indian Governments have no complete information on the subject. The state of things in the French colonies appears to have been unsatisfactory for some years, yet it is even now but imperfectly understood. The affluence of some of the emigrants who return from the British colonies bears testimony to the general prosperity of the class. But the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that we should not be absolutely dependent upon the sometimes meagre reports of officers of the imperial Foreign or Colonial departments for information regarding the welfare of our Indian fellow-subjects in these distant lands.

14. The death-rate on board those vessels whose arrival in the colonies has been reported was not high, averaging only 1·38 per cent. The highest mortality, 2·75 per cent., occurred among the emigrants despatched by the *Jorawur*; more than half the deaths in that instance were caused by measles and their sequelæ. The Lieutenant-Governor has inquired into the case, but it does not appear that any blame attaches to the medical inspector under whose superintendence the emigrants embarked.

15. Altogether 2,931 emigrants returned from the colonies during the year. The average savings of those from Trinidad amounted to Rs. 379-5-6, and the general average was Rs. 178-0-1. In no instance was the death-rate on board the return vessels exceptionally high, though of course many of the passengers were invalids. Dr. Grant's remarks on the subject of pauper emigrants, who are sent back to India after having been incapacitated for earning their livelihood, will be separately considered.

16. Separate orders will also be passed upon the financial statement which Dr. Joubert promises to submit.

17. The Lieutenant-Governor has much pleasure in recording his sense of the care and assiduity with which Dr. Grant has discharged the duties of Protector of Emigrants during the past year.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

HORACE A. COCKERELL,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 1726T.

COPY submitted to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

No. 1727T.

COPY forwarded to the Protector of Emigrants for information and guidance.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

COLMAN MACAULAY,

Offg. Junior Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

DARJEELING,
The 23rd September 1877.

Circular No 60.

EXTRACT paragraph 6 forwarded to all Commissioners of Divisions for information and communication to the district officers within their jurisdiction.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

COLMAN MACAULAY,

Offg. Junior Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

DARJEELING,
The 25th September 1877.

B. E.—Reg. No. 12728—26-9-77.

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA

TO

BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES

FOR

1877-78.

BY

DR. V. RICHARDS,

Officiating Protector of Emigrants.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1878.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY

No. 886, dated Calcutta, the 22nd July 1878.

From—Dr. V. Richards, Officiating Protector of Emigrants,
To—The Officiating Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal, General Department.

I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, the annual report on emigration from Calcutta to the several British and Foreign Colonies for the year ending 31st March 1878.

After Dr. Grant's departure for England, on 19th April 1877, on two years' leave, Dr. C. H. Joubert, Mr. M. Power, and Major R. Beadon, officiated as Protector of Emigrants on various occasions until the 16th March, when I assumed charge.

2. *Medical Inspector of Emigrants.*—This office was held throughout the year by Dr. J. G. French.

3. *Office and establishment.*—The office was removed from No. 1, Jaun Bazar Street, to a more central position, No. 9, Short Street, on the 1st July 1877. There was no change or addition in the nominal roll of the office establishment during the year. A considerable increase in the correspondence has to be noted, both as regards the number of letters received and despatched, as is shewn in the following table:—

	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78
Number of letters received ..	2,586	2,582	3,653
Ditto ditto despatched ...	1,675	1,571	2,217
Total ...	4,261	4,153	5,870.

4. *Emigration Act and Rules.*—No change in Act VII of 1871 was effected during the year, but rules 23 and 29 were altered, and rules 23*a* and 23*b* and 29*a* and 29*b* were added. Rule 23, which regulates the proportion of female to male emigrants proceeding to the colonies during the monsoon months, was relaxed for the season of 1877-78.

5. *Emigration Agencies.*—The following table affords information regarding the agencies concerned in emigration operations during the year under review:—

Colonies.	Agencies.	Emigration Agent.	Date of approval of appointment.	Situation of depôts.
Mauritius	British ..	Mr. C. Eales	21st July 1863	Bhowanipore, near Tolly's Nullah
Demerara	Ditto ..	Mr H. A Firth ...	19th February 1872 ...	No 8, Garden Reach.
Natal	Ditto ...	Ditto	31st January 1874 ...	No. 8, ditto.
Trinidad	Ditto ...	Mr. R. W. S. Mitchell ...	6th June 1874	No 9, ditto.
Jamaica	Ditto ...	Ditto Officiating ...	26th March 1877	No. 76, ditto.
Grenada	Ditto .	Ditto	27th November 1877	No. 9, ditto.
St. Lucia ..	Ditto	Ditto	24th December 1877 ...	No. 9, ditto.
Surinam .. .	Dutch	Mr. E C Van Cutsem ...	27th April 1876	No 20, ditto.
Guadeloupe ...	French ...	„ F. Charriol	10th October 1876	No. 5, Meetapooker Lane.

It will be observed that there were nine agencies at work, seven of which, conducted by Messrs. Eales, Firth, and Mitchell, are British; one Dutch, in charge of Mr. E. Van Cutsem; and one French, conducted by Mr. F. Charriol until January 1878, from which time Mr. Quillett was appointed to act subject to approval. Three more agencies, namely, those of Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Lucia, were at work during 1877-78 than in the previous year. Mr. Firth returned from leave on the 1st October 1877.

6. *Depôts.*—My predecessors appear to have been perfectly satisfied with the internal administration of the depôts under the charge of the above-mentioned gentlemen, and although my experience has been of very short duration, I am able to bear testimony to the cordial co-operation afforded by the agents, not only in reference to the management of the depôts, but in the detection and rectification of abuses on the part of their recruiters and other employés.

The following table exhibits the number of emigrants accommodated in the depôts and the mortality during the past year as compared with the figures under the same heads in the previous year :—

Depôts.	1876-77.			1877-78.		
	Number admitted into depôts.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths.	Number admitted into depôts.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths.
Mauritius	1,274	12	·94	3,044	41	1·34
Demerara	4,746	18	·37	9,668	60	0·62
Natal	796	... ...	.....	1,315	2	0·15
Trinidad	2,160	10	·46	2,821	6	0·21
Jamaica	.....	.....	.....	1,156	9	0 77
Grenada	.....	.....	.....	579	.....	0 00
St. Lucia	.....	.....	.....	724	5	0·69
Surinam	Recruited coolies, but had not forwarded them.			504	1	0·19
Guadeloupe	441	.....	...	2,733	44	1 60
Total ...	9,417	40	·42	22,544	168	0·74

There has been a remarkable increase in the number of admissions into the depôts during the year under review (22,544) as compared with that of the year before (9,417); and although four additional agencies were conducting emigration operations, the number received by them collectively (2,963) does not altogether account for this augmentation in the total admissions, since it occurred in every depôt, and notably in that of Guadeloupe, where it was six-fold. The largest comparative increase was in the Guadeloupe depôt and the smallest in the Trinidad depôt, though the largest actual increase was in the Demerara depôt, where the number rose from 4,746 to 9,668.

The mortality amongst the emigrants, while detained in the depôts, was again higher during the year under review than in the previous year, being 0·74 per cent. against 0·42 per cent. This is due to the very high rate of mortality which obtained in the Mauritius and French depôts, in the former of which it was 1·34 per cent. during an average detention in depôt of 36 days. Bearing in mind the number of days the intending emigrants were detained in the depôts, the death-rate was certainly abnormally high in five depôts—viz. Mauritius, where it was at the rate of 160 per thousand per annum ; Demerara, 124 per thousand for the same period ; the French, 160 per thousand ; the St. Lucia, 144 per thousand ; and the Jamaica, 77 per thousand. In the Trinidad depôt it was exceedingly low, being only 27 per thousand, though 2,821 emigrants passed through the depôt. It is to be observed that the Mauritius depôt always stands first or second in the mortality list, which may partly be due to the fact that one of the chief fields of recruitment for that colony is Behar, where the classes who resort to emigration are generally the least adapted for the purpose, being sickly, and I may add, as far as my experience of them goes, often capricious and discontented. Comparing the death-rate in all the depôts—0·74 per cent.—with the average number of days' detention (25), we have a death-rate of 11·10 per cent. = 111 per thousand, a high death-rate; but it should be borne in mind that many of the emigrants are admitted into the depôts in a very anæmic, ill fed condition, and are detained in the hope and belief that they will improve before the time arrives for embarkation. The majority do improve wonderfully under good care and treatment, but not a few die, and it is these people who abnormally increase the mortality rate. It is a mistake, I think, to speak of these emigrants as "a selected class," since the selection is dependent on such qualifying conditions that it is not unfrequently inoperative. Again, the Emigration Agents select from amongst the healthiest and strongest men they can obtain, but the standard may be good or indifferent, according to the antecedent

circumstances of the individuals—the selection is, therefore, but limited. Moreover, a very large proportion of the deaths were those of children and infants, amongst whom the death-rate has been excessively high during the past year.

The following table gives the particulars regarding the mortality amongst men, women, children, and infants:—

Colonies.	Male.	Female.	Children.		Infants.		Total.
			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Mauritius	14	6	10	3	4	4	41
Demerara	8	3	11	6	15	17	60
Natal	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	2
Trinidad	1	1	1	1	2	.....	6
Jamaica	2	2	1	.....	2	2	9
Grenada	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Lucia	1	.....	1	.....	.....	3	5
Surinam	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Guadeloupe	7	13	4	8	6	6	44
Total	33	26	28	18	31	32	168

It will be observed that of the 168 deaths, no fewer than 109 (65 *per cent.*) were those of children and infants, and only 59-35 *per cent.*) those of adults the total death-rate is therefore—

Amongst the men admitted into depôts 0·25 per cent.
" women " " 0·48 "
" children " " 1·68 "
" infants " " 3·77 "

The death-rate amongst infants in the French depôt was terribly high, being 10 per cent. in an average of only 36 days' detention. Here, again, as in the case of the Mauritius depôt only to a greater extent, owing to the comparatively larger proportion of Beharis, it is observable that a high rate of mortality and a relatively large Behari population are coincident. It is, perhaps, desirable to note that the Surinam depôt was an exception to the rule; but the total number of admissions into that depôt during this year was small, being only 504, about one-third of whom were Beharis.

Although no epidemic prevailed in any depôt, both small-pox and cholera occurred in some of the depôts, and in a measure account for the high rate of mortality. The following table furnishes information regarding the causes of death:—

Depôts.	Diarrhœa.	Dysentery.	Cholera.	Fever.	Chicken-pox.	Small-pox.	Chest affection.	Measles.	Other diseases.	Total.
Mauritius	16	3	7	4	..	...	4	...	7	41
Demerara	9	6	6	6	.....	11	7	.....	15	60
Trinidad	..	1	3	.....	...	1	1	.....	.....	6
Jamaica	.....	3	1	... ..	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	9
Grenada	.....	... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Lucia	.. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	5
Natal	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2
Surinam	.....	.. ..	... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Guadeloupe	8	3	18	4	.....	1	4	.....	5	43
Total	34	16	35	14	.....	18	21	.....	29	.....

It will be seen that, while death is attributed to cholera in 35 instances, diarrhœa accounts for 34 deaths, other diseases for 29, chest affections for 21, small-pox for 18, dysentery 16, and fever 14. While diarrhœa was most prevalent in the Mauritius depôt, cholera was most prevalent in the French depôt, and small-pox and "other diseases" in the Demerara depôt.

Medical examination of intending emigrants in the district where recruited not being compulsory, as under Act VII of 1873, it necessarily follows that a large number, after undergoing medical examination on arrival at the depôts, are found to be physically unfit. Hence, also, the large number of deaths from such diseases as those which affect the chest and those which are included under the comprehensive head of "other diseases."

7. *Detention in Depôt.*—The following table shows the period of detention of emigrants during the year under consideration :—

Depôts.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Remarks.
Mauritius	187	1	30	On account of venereal disease.
Demerara	99	1	18	Owing to granular ophthalmia.
Trinidad	146	1	27	
Jamaica	84	20	37	
Grenada	21	6	9	
St. Lucia	49	4	21	
Natal	44	14	19	
Surinam	103	17	47	
Guadeloupe	146	1	36	This was the case of a woman who was confined in the depôt, and unable to embark till the departure of the fourth ship in December.

The provisions of Rule 17 have not been carried out better during the year under review than in the previous year; for, although the average duration of detention has been 25 days against 29·2 in 1876-77, the prescribed period has been exceeded on three occasions against one in the previous year. The causes of exceptionally long detentions are noted in the column of remarks; and it will be noted that they were principally attributed to the occurrence of disease amongst the intending emigrants, except in the case of the detentions in the Surinam depôt, which were occasioned by the non-arrival at the port of the steamer that had been engaged for the conveyance of the emigrants until long after the first batch had been admitted into the depôt.

8. *Recruitment.*—The following table shows the number and percentage of licenses granted and cancelled during the past three years :—

Recruiting Agencies.	Licenses.								
	Granted.			Cancelled.					
				1875-76.		1876-77.		1877-78.	
	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78	Number.	Percentage	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Mauritius	1	15	33	1	100	1	6·66	4	12·12
Demerara	133	129	113	9	6·76	5	3·87	5	4·42
Trinidad	50	56	92	4	8	5	8·92	6	6·45
Jamaica	25	.....	35	2	8	...	.	...	.....
Grenada	.....	.....	13		.	.....		.. .	.. .
St. Lucia	... ...	... .	13		..	.....	..	..	... .
Natal	47	60	5	1	2·12	.....	.....	.....	.. .
Surinam	.....	10	15	.....	.	.....	... ...	.	. .
Guadeloupe	70	36	55	4	5·71	1	2·77	1	1·81
Total ...	326	306	375	21	6·44	12	3·92	16	4·26

From the above it will be remarked that, although the number of intending emigrants rose from 9,417 in 1876-77 to 22,544 in 1877-78, only 69 additional recruiters' licenses were granted. It must be explained, however, that in several instances licenses were granted at the latter end of the official year 1876-77, so that they continued in force throughout the recruiting season of 1877-78. Consequently, although only 375 licenses were granted in 1877-78, there were 461 licensed recruiters at work during the year, no fewer than 86 recruiters' licenses granted in 1876-77 having continued in force during the year under review.

The following statement exhibits the total number of persons said to have been registered on behalf of each agency, the number of recruiters working during the season, and the average number of individuals recruited by each recruiter :—

Agencies.	Number said to have been registered.	Number of recruiters working during the season.	Average number recruited by each recruiter.	Remarks.
Mauritius	3,128	37	84	Many of these recruiters worked only a few months in the year.
Demerara	10,236	121	84	
Natal	1,347	65	20	
Trinidad	2,905	93	31	
Jamaica	1,244	35	35	
Grenada	606	13	46	
St. Lucia	755	13	57	
Surinam	516	25	20	
Guadeloupe	2,739	59	46	
Average ...	2,608	51	47	

Making every allowance for the greater popularity of emigration to particular colonies over others, and for the time occupied in recruiting emigrants for certain colonies, I cannot but regard the facts set forth above, especially when taken into consideration with others that have come to my notice, as being very suggestive that the operations of the recruiters working under some of the agencies are very substantially supplemented by those of unlicensed recruiters, an evil which seems to be progressive. A comparison between the numbers recruited by a recruiter on behalf of the agencies and a recruiter on behalf of the inland emigration contractors, though, perhaps, not *quite* parallel cases, will be instructive. A recruiter on the colonial side recruits on an average 47 intending emigrants during a period of about seven or eight months, whereas the inland emigration recruiter recruits only 14 during the whole year, notwithstanding the fact that he, also, is not averse to receiving aid from unlicensed recruiters and sirdars licensed to recruit. The inference is of course that illegal recruitment is conducted on a far larger scale for the colonies than for the tea districts.

The percentage of licenses cancelled during the year under report was somewhat higher than in the previous year, being 4·26 *per cent.* compared with 3·92 *per cent.* In view of the stringent measures that are adopted to check misconduct on the part of the recruiters, and apart from the question of their availing themselves of the assistance of unlicensed recruiters, the result above noted is not very discreditable to those concerned. It is satisfactory to be able to record that cases in which young married and unmarried women and boys have been brought to the depôts, and there detained or rejected to be subsequently claimed by their relatives, have certainly been very few indeed. This may be to some extent the result of the order of Government insisting that the hitherto irresponsible sub-agents acting on behalf of the colonial agencies should be compelled to take out recruiters' licenses, and so be rendered more amenable to control; but it may also be attributed in a great measure to increased vigilance on the part of the registering officers.

9. *Terms offered by the various Colonies, &c.*—The following table gives information regarding the terms offered, and which have remained the same as in previous years:—

Colony.	Classification of emigrants.	Period of indenture.	Work.		Wages, minimum rate claimable.	Rations.		Dwelling house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage, when claimable.
			Nature.	Duration.		Prescribed.	Period of supply.			
British Guiana ...	Adult males from 15 and upwards. Male from 10 to 15 and females above 10 years of age.	Five years	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours in the fields or ten hours in the buildings in each day.	Rs. A. P. Daily— 2½ cents ... = 0 3 0 16 „ .... = 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	For adults of and above 15 years of age, at a cost of two annas and eight pies daily :— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. Dal ... ... 4 oz. Cocoanut-oil or ghee ... 1 „ Massala ... ... ½ „ Sugar ... ... 2 „ Salt ... ... ½ „ For minors of and above 10 and under 15 years of age, half the above quantities and half the cost. For infants under 10 years of age one-third the above quantities free of cost.	From the first date of delivery to any employer until the first day of October then next following.	Free of charge ..	Free of charge	After ten years' continuous residence in the colony, five of them being under indenture.
Trinidad	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and nine hours each day.	Daily— 1s. 0½d. ... = 0 3 4 Payable fortnightly.	For adults from 10 years and upwards:— Rice ... ... 1 lb. (Daily.) Dal ... ... 4 oz. (Daily.) Ghee or cocoanut-oil ... 1 „ (Daily.) Sugar ... ... 2 „ (Daily.) For non-adults from 5 to 10 years, half the above scale.	For two years at a cost of 2 annas and eight pies per ration. Free of charge.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Jamaica	Adult males from 16 years and upwards. Males from 12 to 16 years and females of any age.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Daily— 1s. ... = 0 3 0 9d. ... = 0 6 0	For adults— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. (Daily.) Or corn meal ... ... 2 „ (Daily.) Or cooked cassava ... 3 „ (Daily.) Raw ditto ... ... 5 „ (Daily.) Raw yams or cocoas ... 4 „ (Daily.) Split peas ... ... 3 „ (Monthly.) Salt fish ... ... 6 „ (Monthly.) Or mutton, beef, or goat flesh. 8 „ (Monthly.) Ghee ... ... 1 „ (Monthly.) Or sweet or cocoanut-oil 1 pint. (Monthly.) Salt ... ... 1 lb. (Monthly.) Dry pepper or pimento ... 2 oz. (Monthly.) Fuel, sufficient.	For the first three months, or, if necessary, for the whole period of indenture at maximum cost of 3s. 6d. weekly.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Grenada	Same as it is in Trinidad	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Same as it is in Trinidad ...	Same as it is in Trinidad	Same as it is in Trinidad ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
St. Lucia	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ditto	Ditto ditto	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Mauritius ...	Males— Adults above 18 years „ 15 to 18 „ „ 12 to 15 „ Minors above 10 to 12 years. Females— Adults. Male return emigrants above 18 years. Male return emigrants above 14 to 18 years	Ditto ...	Ditto and domestic service.	Ditto ditto ...	Monthly— 10s. ... = 5 0 0 8s. ... = 4 0 0 6s. ... = 3 0 0 5s. ... = 2 8 0 Daily— 6d. ... = 0 4 0 and rice or monthly— 6s. ... = 3 0 0 11s. ... = *5 8 0 9s. ... = 4 8 0 Payable monthly.	For adults above 12 years— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. (Weekly.) Pounded maize ... ... 2 „ (Weekly.) Cooked manioc ... ... 2½ „ (Weekly.) Raw ditto ... ... 5 „ (Weekly.) Dal ... ... 8 oz. (Monthly.) Salt-fish ... ... 8 „ (Monthly.) Ghee or oil ... ... 4 „ (Monthly.) Salt ... ... 4 „ (Monthly.)	For whole period of indenture.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Not provided by the colony.

Natal	Adult males of and above the age of 15 years. Adult females of and above the age of 15 years.	Ditto	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in each week, holidays excepted, and eight hours in each day.	Monthly— 1st year ... 5 0 0 2nd „ ... 5 8 0 3rd „ ... 6 0 0 4th „ ... 6 8 0 5th „ ... 7 0 0 Half the above rates ...	For adults— 1½lb. rice, or for three days in the week, as substitute for rice, 2lb. of pounded maize. Monthly— Dal ... ... 2 lb. Salt-fish ... ... 2 „ Ghee or oil ... ... 1 „ Salt ... ... 1 „ For non-adults, of the age of one year and upwards, half the above scale.	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	After ten years' residence, five of them being under indenture.
French Colonies...	Adult males of 16 years and upwards. Adult females of 14 years and upwards. Males from 11 to 16 years, and females from 11 to 14 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Monthly ... 5 0 0 Ditto ... 4 0 0 Ditto ... 2 0 0 Payable weekly. Also two suits of clothes each year.	Rice, manioc, flour, salt-fish, ghee or oil, salt, &c., in the quantities fixed by Government regulations ... ... } Daily.	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	After five years' service under indenture.
Surinam	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards. Minor males and females from 10 to 15 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Five days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours each day.	Daily— 24 cents ... 0 8 0 (British Guiana Currency). In proportion to amount of work performed and regulated by rates for adults payable weekly. *	For adults above 10 years— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. Dal ... ... 4 oz. Ghee ... ... 1 „ Curry stuff ... ... ¼ „ Sugar ... ... 2 „ Salt sufficient to season. For non-adults between 2 and 10 years, half the scale for adults.	If desired by emigrants for the first six months at a maximum cost of 60 cents per week. At a maximum cost of 30 cents per week.	Ditto ...	Free of charge, except when illness is traced to personal misconduct.	After five years' service under indenture.

* These rates are subject to yearly increments of eight annas.

With reference to the question of the right of repatriation being forfeited on the immigrant undergoing correctional or criminal condemnation during the term of indenture noticed in last year's report in connection with Guadeloupe, subsequent correspondence proves that the law on this point is not only extant, but that it is occasionally enforced. .

The following table shews the number of emigrants required by the various colonies during the past two years, and the number actually despatched :—

Colonies	1876-77.			1877-78.			Remarks.
	Number of statute adults required by the colonies	Number despatched represented as—		Number of statute adults required by the colonies	Number despatched represented as—		
		Statute adults	Souls		Statute adults	Souls.	
Demerara	6,000	3,667½	3,992	7,000	6,988½	8,288	
Trinidad	1,500	1,507½	1,801	2,000	1,935	2,151	
Jamaica				764	764	896	
Grenada	.	...	.. .	500	403½	461	
St Lucia				500	485½	579	
Mauritius	1,385	915	1,027	Males 880	2,034	2,034	
Natal	2,730	715	761	„ 992	1,025	1,092	
Surinam		.....	..	300	300	324	
Guadeloupe	1,350	338½	353	2,100	2,156½	2,361	
Total ..	12,965	7,138½	7,734	15,036	16,092	18,488	

It is very satisfactory to observe that although the demand for labourers was greater during the year under review than in the previous year, the requirements of the colonies have been, with but few and unimportant exceptions, fully met.

Of the 18,488 emigrants despatched to the different colonies, 306 were returned emigrants, as is here shewn :—

Colonies	Number who re-emigrated	Colonies	Number who re emigrated
Maritius	121	Surinam ... .' ...	8
Demerara	99	Grenada	4
Trinidad	40	St. Lucia	1
Jamaica	10		
Natal	12	Total ...	306
Guadeloupe	11		

The above number is considerably less than the number who re-emigrated in the previous year, which was 401. (*Note.*—The numbers given in last year's report are not quite accurate, as they omit the women who re-emigrated to Mauritius.)

The following statement shews the number of emigrants who re-emigrated to the various colonies, and the colonies from which they had previously returned :—

Had returned from—	Proceeded to—																	
	Mauritius		Demerara		Trinidad		Jamaica		Natal		Guadeloupe		Surinam		Grenada		St Lucia	
	1876-77	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78	1876-76	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78	1876-77	1877-78.
	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls	Souls.	Souls	Souls	Souls
Mauritius ..	193	102	6	19	5	7		2	13	2	1	6		.. .	..	. ..		
Jamaica	15	6	17	6	2	3		7		3	2	2			.			
Demerara ..	7	8	95	66	3	5			7	1	3	2		8	..			
Trinidad		4	1	3	13	19		1	2	4	..	1					.	
Réunion .	1	1																
Natal ..		..	10	5					2	2								
St Vincent,		..	3			6							..	.	.		. .	
Grenada .					,										.	4		1
St Lucia ...																		
Total	216	121	132	99	23	40		10	24	12	6	11		8		4		1

10. *Intending emigrants.*—The following table gives information regarding the intending emigrants from the time of registration to that of admission into the several depôts, as furnished by the agencies, together with the number

registered according to the reports submitted to this department by the several registering officers:—

Agencies.	Number registered as per Registering Officer's reports.	Number registered as per Emigration Agent's arrival reports.	Maximum number said to have been registered.	Casualties.					Admitted into depôts.	Unaccounted for.	Excess number accounted for.
				Absconded or lost.	Died.	Unwilling.	Rejected.	Total.			
Mauritius ...	2,944	3,128	3,128	69	...	4	11	84	3,044	.....	.....
Demerara ...	8,596	10,236	10,236	89	...	...	499	588	9,668	20	.....
Natal ...	1,208	1,347	1,347	...	...	...	20	...	1,315	32	.....
Trinidad ...	2,748	2,905	2,905	64	...	...	3	84	2,821	.....	.....
Jamaica ...	1,244	1,156	1,244	3	...	...	...	6	1,156	82	.....
Grenada ...	606	579	606	5	...	...	...	5	579	22	.....
St. Lucia ...	755	724	755	1	...	...	...	1	724	30	.....
Surinam ...	516	504	516	...	...	...	...	...	504	12	.....
Guadeloupe ...	2,739	2,733	2,739	57	...	20	39	116	2,733	.....	113
Total ...	21,366	23,312	23,476	288	...	24	572	884	21,544	198	113

From the above it will be seen how impossible it is for this department to exercise proper supervision over the operations of the recruiters. It is a matter of the very greatest importance that accurate copies of all the registrations effected in the various districts should be forwarded punctually to the Emigration office, and, although there has been some improvement in this respect over the previous year, much remains to be done before anything like completeness is attained. In fairness, however, to the Bengal officers concerned, it should be explained that the officers principally at fault are those serving under other Governments. There is a discrepancy between the numbers as furnished to this department by the Emigration Agents and registering officers of 2,284, 2,120 being unaccounted for by the latter officers, and no traces of the remaining 164 being found in the returns of the former.

The following table affords full information with reference to the number admitted into each depôt, the casualties from all causes, the despatches to the several colonies, the unrequired surplus of coolies remaining at the end of the season, and the balance remaining at the end of the year:—

Colonies.	Admitted into depôt.	Casualties.																Despatched to colonies.		Unrequired surplus at end of season.		Balance remaining at the end of the year.	
		Rejections.						Releases.						Desertions.		Deaths.		Total casualties.					
		As unfit to labour.		Accompanying those rejected as unfit.		Total.		Unwilling to emigrate.		Claimed by relatives.		Total.											
		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Mauritius ...	3,044	80	2·62	33	1·08	119	3·90	...	...	6	0·19	6	0·19	344	11·24	41	1·34	510	16·75	2,336	76·74	...	...	198	6·50
Demerara ...	9,668	607	6·27	370	3·82	977	10·10	30	0·31	10	0·10	40	0·41	274	2·83	60	0·61	1,351	13·97	8,288	85·72	29	0·20	...	...
Natal ...	1,315	31	2·35	...	...	31	2·35	8	0·60	1	0·08	9	0·68	75	5·70	2	0·15	117	8·89	1,092	83·04	106	8·06	...	...
Trinidad ...	2,821	147	5·21	39	1·38	186	6·59	57	2·02	17	0·60	74	2·62	183	6·48	6	0·21	449	15·91	2,151	76·28	221	7·83	...	...
Jamaica ...	1,156	62	5·36	41	3·54	103	8·91	5	0·43	...	...	5	0·43	38	3·28	9	0·77	155	13·41	896	77·50	105	9·08	...	...
Grenada ...	579	16	2·76	6	1·04	22	3·80	...	...	1	0·17	1	0·17	2	0·34	...	...	25	4·31	461	79·62	93	16·06	...	...
St. Lucia ...	724	12	1·65	8	1·11	20	2·76	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	1·72	5	0·69	38	5·24	579	79·97	107	14·77	...	...
Surinam ...	504	78	15·47	...	...	78	15·47	20	3·96	4	0·80	24	4·76	53	10·51	1	0·19	156	30·95	324	64·28	24	4·76	...	...
Guadeloupe ...	2,733	157	5·74	44	1·61	201	7·35	35	1·24	10	0·36	45	1·64	55	2·01	44	1·60	345	12·62	2,361	86·38	27	0·98	...	..
Total ...	23,544	1,196	5·35	541	2·35	1,737	7·70	155	0·68	49	0·22	204	0·90	1,037	4·59	168	0·74	3,146	13·95	18,488	82·00	712	3·15	198	0·87

In showing the rejections and releases, I have departed from the course adopted in the previous reports, because it appears to me that not only is such a heading far too comprehensive, but that the information under each head should be shown separately. It would also seem to be desirable that these headings should again be subdivided in order to demonstrate clearly the causes which led to the rejections and releases. Under this head have hitherto been included (*a*) the actual rejections of intending emigrants on account of physical unfitness to labour, (*b*) the number of healthy persons accompanying them who were released in consequence of such rejections, (*c*) those who were released as unwilling to emigrate or were claimed by relatives, and (*d*) many of those who were transferred to other depôts at the end of the season. Under these circumstances it will be difficult to compare the results

of the two past years, though the fact that the *percentage* of the number actually despatched to the colonies during the year under review was in excess of that of the number despatched in 1876-77 is an indication that the operations of the agencies were more successful in 1877-78 than in the previous year. It will be seen that of the 22,544 persons admitted into the depôts, 1,196 = 5·35 *per cent.* were rejected as physically unfit, 541 = 2·35 *per cent.* were rejected as they accompanied the persons rejected as unfit to labour, 155 = 0·68 *per cent.* were released as unwilling to fulfil their engagement, and 49 = 10·22 *per cent.* were claimed by relatives. The desertions amounted to 1,037 = 4·59 *per cent.*, and the deaths to 168 = 0·74 *per cent.*

Rejections.—Of the 1,196 persons rejected as being physically unfit, by far the larger number was contributed by Demerara, though the ratio *per cent.* to admissions is not half so high as was the case in the Surinam depôt, which amounted to 15·47 *per cent.* Having inquired very carefully into the causes which led to the large number of rejections for physical unfitness, I am in a position to state that every endeavour is made by both the agent for Demerara (Mr. Firth) and the agent for Trinidad, Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Lucia (Mr. Mitchell) to minimize the number of rejections. They make very liberal allowances to the medical men who conduct the examinations of the intending emigrants on their behalf, and it is certainly not creditable to those concerned that such large numbers of evidently unfit persons should have been submitted to the hardships of long journeys for no purpose and at such a heavy pecuniary loss to these agencies. There were at least 508 persons rejected on arrival at the Demerara depôt who were manifestly constitutionally unfit, notwithstanding the most stringent instructions that had been issued to the medical examiners. None of the other agencies have hitherto employed medical examiners in the districts. The agent for Surinam (Mr. Van Cutsem) explains circumstantially the very large number of rejections, 78 = 15·74 *per cent.*, which occurred at his depôt. He states that in consequence of the heavy mortality which had occurred in Dutch Guiana amongst Indian immigrants, and the action taken thereon by the Indian Government in suspending emigration to the colony, the instructions received by him from his Government as to the selection of labourers were so stringent, that in carrying them out a large number of rejections was inevitable. As evidence of the success which attended his efforts in this direction, he appeals (*a*) to the results of the shipment per steamer *Clive*, which conveyed 324 souls to Surinam without a single death, though the voyage lasted 77 days; and (*b*) to the fact that the mortality amongst these immigrants during the first three months after their arrival—generally the most trying time—was as low as 4·0 *per cent.* per annum. The numbers released from their engagement on account of the rejected persons was large in the Jamaica and Demerara depôts, being 3·54 *per cent.* and 3·82 *per cent.* of the admissions respectively.

Releases.—Under this head has been included only the number released as unwilling to emigrate, and those claimed by, or restored to, their relatives. The number released as "unwilling to emigrate" was comparatively small, except in the case of the Surinam depôt, where it amounted to 3·96 *per cent.* In explanation of this circumstance Mr. Van Cutsem says—"Their number was considerably augmented by a batch of dancing-girls and women of a similar description, with their male attendants. These people laughed at the idea of labouring as agriculturists." This explanation discloses a very unsatisfactory state of things in reference to the manner in which recruitment is often conducted. It would at first appear to be a satisfactory feature in the operations of the Mauritius agency that not a single individual declared his unwillingness to emigrate; but looking to the fact that the desertions were very numerous, 344 = 11·24 *per cent.*, it cannot but be regarded as a very suspicious circumstance. The comparative number claimed by relatives was highest at the Trinidad and Surinam depots, being 0·60 per cent. and 0·80 per cent. respectively.

Desertions.—The desertions have been somewhat fewer during the year under review than in the previous year, being 4·59 per cent. against 5·21 per cent. The comparatively large proportion of desertions from the Mauritius and Surinam depôts is far from satisfactory. In the case of the Surinam depôt

desertions, Mr. E. Van Cutsem, the agent, thinks they are mainly due to the following causes:—

(*a*) An unusually long detention in the depôt;

(*b*) the unusually high rate of wages which prevailed in Calcutta at the time;

(*c*) intrigue on the part of certain designing coolies and one of the durwans of the depôt.

Notwithstanding these conditions, however, there is very good reason to believe that the great majority of the desertions from the depôts are the outcome of illegal recruitment, which requires the adoption of very stringent measures for its suppression. I may here mention that in every instance in which a misdemeanour has been brought home to a recruiter, he has been punished. The death-rate has already been considered in paragraph 6.

Unrequired surplus at the end of the season.—The numbers under this head were rather too numerous in some cases, but as the coolies were generally transferred through this department to other agencies, no particular hardship resulted to the intending emigrants.

The rule laying down the proportion of women to men at a minimum of 40 of the former to 100 of the latter has been complied with, except by the Mauritius and Natal agencies, the former showing a deficiency of three and the latter of 42 to be made good during the year 1878-79. The Demerara agency supplied the previous year's deficiency; but of the 192 to the debit of the French agency, only 11 were made good. Special steps are to be taken, however, during the ensuing year to complete the number required by the rule.

The subjoined statement affords full information on the subject:—

Colonies.	Men.	Women.	Proportion.	Deficiency at the close of the previous year.	Deficiency made up during the year.	Deficiency remaining at the close of the year.
Demerara	4,403	1,994	45·28	40	40	.....
Trinidad	1,284	546	42·52	.....	.....	.....
Jamaica	487	208	42·71	.....	.....	.....
Grenada	265	107	40·37	.....	.....	.....
St. Lucia	286	158	55·24	.....	.....	.....
Mauritius	1,372	545	39·72	.....	.....	3
Natal	737	256	34·73	3	.....	42
Surinam	211	85	40·28	.....	.....	.....
Guadeloupe	1,455	593	40·75	192	11	181
Total ...	10,500	4,492	42·78	.....	.....	.....

The provinces from which the emigrants actually despatched to the colonies were recruited, as well as the districts in each province in their relative order of importance as supply-markets, are given in the annexed statement:—

Provinces.	Districts.	Number of Souls despatched for the Colonies.									Total.
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	Grenada.	St. Lucia.	Natal.	Surinam.	Guadeloupe.	
North-Western...	Allahabad, Azimghur, Mirzapore, Benares, Ghazeepore, Goruckpore, Meerut, Cawnpore, Bareilly, Agra, Jhansi, and Jounpore.	1,221	4,581	1,001	432	286	281	492	93	711	9,098
Behar	Patna, Gya, Arrah, Sarun, Tirhoot, Chumparun, Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Purneah.	907	510	298	26	24	13	160	113	987	3,038
Oudh	Lucknow, Seetapore, Sultanpore, Fyzabad, and Roy Bareilly.	90	2,118	578	410	146	283	287	102	151	4,165
Bengal	Calcutta, 24-Pergunnahs, Howrah, Nuddea, Burdwan, Moorshidabad, Jessore, Pubna, Rungpore, Cooch Behar, Chota Nagpore, Bankoora, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Dacca, Mymensingh, Backergunge, and Furreedpore.	84	42	103	13	1	1	6	2	16	268
Miscellaneous Madras and Bombay, &c.	Unknown	18	847	131	1	.....	.....	113	5	479	1,594
Native States ...	Unknown	2	11	5	.....	.....	.....	12	6	5	41
Punjab and Dependencies.	Delhi, Umballa, Jullunder, Umritsur, Lahore, Peshawur, Ferozepore, and Guserat.	16	37	7	3	2	.....	6	2	2	69
Central India ...	Indore, Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Raipore, Rewan, and Gwalior.	2	137	18	11	2	1	15	1	10	197
Orissa	Cuttack, Balasore and Pooree	2	5	10	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	18
	Total ...	2,336	8,288	2,151	896	461	579	1,092	324	2,361	18,488

About half the coolies admitted into the Mauritius, Demerara, Jamaica, Trinidad, Grenada, St. Lucia, and Natal depôts, and one-third of those admitted into the Guadeloupe and Surinam depôts, were obtained from the North-Western Provinces.

Behar supplied half of the coolies admitted into the Guadeloupe depôt, more than one-third of those admitted into Surinam depôt, and about one-third of the Mauritius depôt coolies. Oudh was indented upon for about half the coolies belonging to the Jamaica and St. Lucia depôts; about one-quarter of those admitted into the depôts of the Demerara, Trinidad, Grenada, and Natal agencies; and exactly one-third of the number in the Surinam depôt.

The provinces from which the excess number on last year's despatches was recruited are shewn in the following statement: —

	Increase.
North-Western Provinces	6,123
Behar	592
Oudh	2,861
Unknown	1,328
Central India	89
Punjab, &c.	18
Total ...	11,011
	Decrease
Bengal	202
Native states	53
Orissa	2
Total ...	257
Increase on the previous year's despatch ...	10,754

It is seen that while the North-Western Provinces and Oudh supplied considerably more of the emigrants, the supply from Behar was not proportionately greater, and that from Bengal—always comparatively small—was reduced almost one-half.

11. *Emigrant vessels.*—The following table shews that one steam-ship and 37 sailing ships were engaged in the conveyance of the 18,488 emigrants from this port to the several colonies, each vessel carrying an average of 486 emigrants, compared with 18 sailing ships which conveyed 7,734 emigrants, an average of 429 per ship during the year 1876-77 :—

Colonies	Ships left this port in						Number of souls.	Average number of souls per ship
	1876-77.			1877-78.				
	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.		
Demerara	8	...	8	15	...	15	8,288	552
Trinidad	3	...	3	4	...	4	2,151	538
Jamaica	...	...	...	2	...	2	896	448
Mauritius	4	...	4	6	...	6	2,336	389
Natal	2	...	2	3	...	3	1,092	364
Grenada	..	.	...	1	...	1	461	461
St. Lucia	...	...	...	1	...	1	579	579
Surinam	...	...	...	...	1	1	324	324
Guadeloupe	1	...	1	5	..	5	2,361	473
Total ...	18	...	18	37	1	38	18,488	...

Information regarding each vessel, as far as it is available, is here given :—

Number.	Name of vessel.	Colonies to which emigrants were conveyed.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure.	Date of arrival at destination.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.
1	"Jumna" ...	Natal ...	T. D. Atkins ...	8th April 1877	1st June 1877	55	423	5	1·18
2	"Glenroy" ..	Do ...	L. M. Gregoire ...	11th May ,,	27th ,, ,,	48	463	3	0 64
3	"Sylhet" ...	Mauritius ..	R. St Romaine .	15th June ,,	14th ,, ,,	28	278	2	0·71
4	"Umvoti" ...	Natal ...	R. L. Kennedee	20th ,, ,,	2nd August ,,	44	200	1	0·49
5	Steamer "Clive" ..	Surinam ...	J Hinders ...	4th July ,,	18th September ,,	77	324	...	...
6	"Ailsa" ...	Demerara ...	William Holman ..	1st August ,,	7th November ,,	99	485	11	2·26
7	"Jorawar" ...	Trinidad ...	C. Chapman ...	5th ,, ,,	16th ,, ,,	104	657	30	4·56
8	"Allumghier" ...	Mauritius ...	A Noel ...	21st ,, ,,	22nd September ,,	32	329	1	0·30
9	"Botanist" ...	Guadeloupe ..	J. Alavine ...	21st ,, ,,	20th November ,,	101	454	21	4·62
10	"Sheila" ...	Demerara ...	G. Stewart ...	31st ,, ,,	1st December ,,	96	549	8	1·45
11	"Jumna" ...	Guadeloupe ...	— Ganzer ...	15th September ,,	... ...	.	439	...	...
12	"Lightning" ...	Trinidad ...	W. Arthur . .	21st ,, ,,	2dth December ,,	97	524	10	1·90
13	"Artist" ..	Demerara ...	R. Rivera ...	30th ,, ,,	2nd January 1878	95	552	17	3·07
14	"Ganges" ...	Trinidad ...	C. Penn ...	4th October ,,	5th February ,,	125	490	17	3·46
15	"Essex" ...	Guadeloupe ...	F. Bellamy ...	9th ,, ,,	... .	...	497	...	...
16	"Merchantman" ..	Mauritius ...	Sheik Hosseinny ..	11th ,, ,,	17th October 1877	37	378	8	2·11
17	"Jura" ...	Demerara ...	J. S. Ireland ...	27th ,, ,,	25th January 1878	91	608	14	2·30
18	"Syria" ...	Trinidad ...	T. D. Atkins ...	31st ,, ,,	2nd February ,,	95	480	16	3 33
19	"Sylhet" ...	Jamaica ...	E A. Hardwick ...	17th November ,,	19th ,, ,,	95	525	4	0·76
20	"Naturalist" ...	Demerara ...	J S Hughes ...	24th ,, ,,	27th ,, ,,	96	480	14	2 91
21	"Sussex" ...	Ditto ..	J B. Menzies ...	27th ,, ,,	30th March ,,	98	577	19	3·42
22	"Glenroy" ...	Mauritius ...	D. M. Renaud ...	28th ,, ,,	29th December 1877	31	496	12	2 41
23	"Ballock Moyle"...	Demerara ...	J. M. Barry ...	9th December ,,	27th February 1878	81	617	13	2 10
24	"Baun" ...	Guadeloupe ...	L. Ercole ...	12th ,, ,,	....		534	...	...
25	"Hespirides" ...	Demerara ...	E. Nook ...	11th ,, ,,	.....	..	611	...	
26	"Hermoine" ...	Grenada ...	R St. Romaine .	20th ,, ,,	20th March ,,	90	461	4	0·86
27	"King Arthur" ...	Demerara ...	R. Whitelam ...	25th ,, ,,	20th ,, ,,	87	485	13	2·68
28	"Howrah" ...	Ditto ...	C. L Cunningham	4th January 1878	.....	...	495	...	...
29	"Cheetah" ...	Jamaica ...	A. E. Prockter ...	6th ,, ,,	9th April ,,	92	371	6	1·61
30	"Canada" ...	Mauritius ...	G H. Booth	17th ,, ,,	24th February ,,	36	478	2	0·41
31	"Senator" ...	Demerara ...	F. C. Shaw ...	19th ,, ,,	.....	...	652	..	...
32	"Brechin Castle"...	Guadeloupe ...	— Boulain ...	20th ,, ,,	.....	...	457	...	...
33	"Pandora" ...	Demerara ...	J. G Winstone ...	25th ,, ,,	.....		527	...	...
34	"Leonidas" ...	St. Lucia ...	A. H. Savrey ...	29th ,, ,,	2nd May ,,	95	579	3	0 53
35	"Neva" ...	Demerara ...	J. M Lainy	1st February ,,	....	...	519	...	...
36	"Boyne" ...	Ditto ...	William Holman...	13th ,, ,,	.....	...	568	...	...
37	"Philosopher" ...	Ditto ...	G. Stewart ...	21st ,, ,,	.....	...	563	...	...
38	"Allumghier" ...	Mauritius ...	F. Brun ...	17th March ,,	.....	...	377	...	...

It will be observed that detailed information is available for only 26 of the 38 ships which left the port of Calcutta for the several colonies. The average length of the voyage was 77 days, and the average number of emigrants in each ship 472. As the total number of deaths amounted to 245, the average *per* ship was $9\frac{7}{10}$, or two *per cent.* during a voyage of 77 days = 9·50 *per cent. per annum.* Comparing these results with those of the previous year, the death-rate has been very high, being *two per cent.* against 1·38 *per cent.* for 1876-77. Cholera occurred on board only one vessel, the *Artist.*

The highest mortality as far as the records shew was on board the *Botanist*, and the unhealthiness of the trip is attributed by the Surgeon Superintendent, M. J. Alvoine, to the dampness of the vessel, owing to the fact of her having been previously used for the conveyance of salt. Dr. Hughes also similarly accounts for the sickness on board the ship *Naturalist*, of which he was in charge. The heavy mortality on board the ship *Jorawar* is said by Dr. Chapman to have resulted principally from measles. It is not necessary to enter into the circumstances attending each voyage, as they were fully gone into as the records came to hand, and reports on each vessel have been submitted to Government.

12. *Return emigrants.*—The annexed statement exhibits the number of emigrants who returned from certain colonies, the amount of their acknowledged savings, and the mortality during the return voyage :—

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average percentage of mortality.		Savings. Aggregate amount.	Savings. Average amount.
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	5	1,284	0·62	8	1,92,090 0 0	149 9 7
Demerara	1	489	1·22	6	1,01,861 6 8	208 4 10
Trinidad	1 and 4 Mail steamer	459	2 83	13	1,26,626 7 3	275 13 11
Natal	1	5	.....	.....	.....	. ...
Jamaica	1	307	3 19	12	52,349 9 4	170 8 3
Total ..	9 and 4 Mail steamer	2,544	1·13	39	4,72,926 14 3	185 14 4

Thus it will be seen that 2,544 souls returning from the several colonies brought back with them an average of Rs. 185-14-4—an enhancement of Rs. 7-14-3 per head upon the savings of those who returned in the previous year. Trinidad, as usual, heads the list, with an average of Rs. 275-13-11 per individual.

In addition to the above sums, many of the return emigrants possessed jewellery of considerable value. Some remarkable instances of emigrants' success in Trinidad have been reported by Mr. Mitchell, the agent for that colony. In December 1877 two coolies, Juppi and Rughoonandun, entered thorough-bred race-horses for six out of twelve races, and won five of considerable value. In 1875 and 1876 Anjoow, a coolie, ran blood-horses, and won six out of twelve events in the first year, and two in the latter. Mr. Mitchell states further that in the town of San Fernando, second in commercial importance to the capital of the Colony, 22 of the burgesses are coolie emigrants who arrived in Trinidad some years ago as ordinary contract labourers "of the same class" as those who usually emigrate from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh to the tea gardens of Assam and Cachar.—An Indian emigrant died lately at Trinidad, leaving a fortune of one hundred and thirty-four thousand rupees (Rs. 1,34,000).

The following extract from a report made by the Reverend Henry Moore, a Moravian Missionary, has been sent to me by Mr. Firth, the Emigration Agent for Demerara:—

"There can be no doubt that the coolies in Demerara are very happy—as happy as they care to be—happier, certainly, than such as those in their own country could possibly be. They are provided with neat and comfortable cottages, they obtain good wages—from 1*s.* to 4*s.* per diem. They can save money, and they do. They buy cattle. A coolie is presumed to be able to save at the least an average sum of one dollar a week. In six or eight months after his arrival in the colony he purchases his cow, he sells his milk to the estate hospital, or in the town; he rears up calves and other live-stock, he prospers, and soon has an account at the savings' bank. He is treated kindly by the estate authorities. He is far from being in serfdom or semi-serfdom. Should he feel aggrieved, there are Government immigration officials to whom he does not hesitate to apply. He has his schools, his hospital, his doctor, his missionary. Those in England of the anti-slavery party who complain of the bad treatment, of the unsatisfactory condition of the coolies, need but to come and live for a few days near any coolie village on either of the plantations, to learn that the condition of the coolies is comfortable, and their treatment by the estate authorities all that could be desired. There is no such thing as planter-oppression and injustice towards them. The most unsatisfactory features are in the coolies' own domestic life and habits, the wife-beating, the drunkenness, the apparently almost total absence of religion, and the excessive sharpness of his frugality. One would like to see them more cleanly, and adopting in their personal appearance a little more extensively the habits and customs of civilized life. They are in many respects an interesting people, and the more closely one comes into contact with them, the more one gets to appreciate them, and to realize the services that they render to the country and the services the country renders to them. Many even of the coolies are complained of as being lazy, adopting the habit, in that respect, of the natives, from whom it is said the Barbadians contracted it; many of the coolies scarcely ever work on Mondays, and do very little on Tuesdays.

The above facts appear to testify not only to the industry and providence of many of the emigrants, but to the favourable nature of the terms under which they emigrate to certain colonies.

13. *Financial statement.*—For similar reasons to those given last year, I regret that I am unable to submit with this report an account of the receipts and disbursements in connection with the working of the department. A special report will, however, be submitted as soon as necessary information is available for the purpose.

In conclusion, I have the honour to submit the following returns for the year under review:—

1. Annual return of emigrants despatched to Demerara.
2. Ditto ditto ditto Trinidad.
3. Ditto ditto ditto Jamaica.
4. Ditto ditto ditto Grenada.
5. Ditto ditto ditto St. Lucia.
6. Ditto ditto ditto Natal.
7. Ditto ditto ditto Mauritius.
8. Ditto ditto ditto Surinam.
9. Ditto ditto ditto Guadeloupe.
10. Table exhibiting the number of emigrants to and from the West India Colonies.
11. Ditto ditto ditto ditto Mauritius and Natal.

V. RICHARDS,
Officiating Protector of Emigrants.

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian emigrants who have left Calcutta for Mauritius and Natal during the year 1877-78, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

	1877-78.		
	Mauritius. No.	Natal. No	Total. No,
Embarked—			
Men	1,372	737	2,109
Women	545	256	801
Children—			
Boys	140	42	182
Girls	94	22	116
Infants—			
Boys	94	18	112
Girls	91	17	108
Total number of souls	2,336	1,092	3,428
Ditto of statute adults ...	2,034	1,025	3,059
Returned —			
Men	881	2	883
Women	203	2	205
Children—			
Boys	92	...	92
Girls	89	1	90
Infants—			
Boys	10	...	10
Girls	9	...	9
Total number of souls	1,284	5	1,289
Ditto of statute adults ...	1,179⅔	4½	1,184⅙
	Rs.		Rs.
Amount of savings brought by return emigrants	1,92,090	...	1,92,090

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian emigrants who have left Calcutta for the West Indies during the year 1877-78, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

	1877-78.							
	Demerara. No.	Trinidad No.	Jamaica No.	Grenada No.	St Lucia. No.	Surinam No.	Guadeloupe No.	Total. No.
Embarked—								
Men	4,403	1,284	487	265	286	211	1,455	8,391
Women	1,994	546	208	107	158	85	593	3,691
Children—								
Boys	713	124	80	38	51	5	115	1,116
Girls	480	86	58	25	32	3	102	786
Infants—								
Boys	342	59	35	11	27	9	51	534
Girls ...	366	52	28	15	25	11	45	542
Total number of souls	8,288	2,151	896	461	579	324	2,361	15,060
Total number of statute adults	69,88½	1,935	764	4,03½	485½	300	2,156½	13,033
Returned—								
Men	247	263	202	.....	.....	....	. ...	713
Women	130	104	60	.....	.. ...	...	.. ..	294
Children—								
Boys	44	31	17	.... .	.....	..	... ..	92
Girls	49	49	23	...	.....	...	.....	121
Infants—								
Boys	11	6	3	....	... .	..	.....	20
Girls	8	6	2	.. ...	... ..	.....	.....	16
Total number of souls	489	459	307	.....	.. ..	...	. ...	1,255
Total number of statute adults ..	423½	407	282	.. ...	...		.. ...	1,112½
Amount of savings brought by return emigrants	Rs. A P. 1,01,861 6 8	Rs. A. P. 1,26,626 7 3*	Rs A. P. 52,349 0 4	.	.. ..	..	... ..	Rs. A. P. 2,80,836 14 3

* This amount includes savings of emigrants who returned to India by four mail steamers

Annual Return of Emigrants despatched to Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, Grenada, St. Lucia, Natal, Mauritius, Surinam, and the French West India Colonies, during the year 1877-78.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Jamaica.			Grenada.			St. Lucia.			Natal.			Mauritius.			Surinam.			Guadeloupe.			Total.		Grand total.	Remarks.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.		
Under 2 years	342	366	708	59	52	111	35	28	63	11	15	26	27	25	52	18	17	35	94	91	185	9	11	20	51	45	96	646	650	1,296	
From 2 to 10 years	703	480	1,183	124	86	210	80	58	138	38	25	63	51	32	83	42	22	64	140	94	234	5	3	8	115	102	217	1,298	902	2,200	
„ 10 to 20 „	933	402	1,335	417	136	553	118	58	176	55	20	75	54	41	95	252	68	320	241	133	374	56	23	79	367	163	530	2,493	1,044	3,537	
„ 20 to 30 „	3,030	1,492	4,522	770	365	1,135	342	137	479	200	78	278	214	108	322	424	165	589	612	270	882	147	58	205	1,024	407	1,431	6,763	3,080	9,843	
„ 30 to 40 „	429	96	525	83	36	119	26	12	38	10	9	19	18	9	27	58	23	81	499	125	624	8	4	12	62	23	85	1,193	337	1,530	
„ 40 to 50 „	11	4	15	14	8	22	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	19	16	35	...	...	...	2	...	2	49	29	78	
Above 50 years	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	
Grand Total ...	5,448	2,840	8,288	1,467	684	2,151	602	294	896	314	147	461	364	215	579	797	295	1,092	1,606	730	2,336	225	99	324	1,621	740	2,361	12,444	6,044	18,488	

No. 2.—As to places whence Emigrants came to Calcutta for Embarkation.

Orissa	5	...	5	5	5	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	5	18	
Western Bengal	14	8	22	18	28	46	9	4	13	...	1	1	1	...	1	4	2	6	13	16	28	...	...	...	8	5	13	66	64	130	
Central Bengal	7	7	14	23	29	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	21	43	...	2	2	1	...	1	53	59	112	
Eastern Bengal	5	1	6	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	1	13	...	...	...	1	1	2	23	3	26	
Behar	320	190	510	208	90	298	20	6	26	19	5	24	5	8	13	106	54	160	623	284	907	72	41	113	647	340	987	2,020	1,018	3,038	
North-Western Provinces ...	2,956	1,625	4,581	687	314	1,001	293	139	432	191	95	286	177	104	281	360	132	492	838	383	1,221	64	29	93	540	171	711	6,106	2,992	9,098	
Oudh	1,469	658	2,118	409	169	578	269	141	410	100	46	146	180	103	283	224	63	287	71	19	90	76	26	102	137	14	151	2,926	1,239	4,165	
Central India	93	45	137	14	4	18	7	4	11	2	...	2	1	...	1	12	3	15	2	...	2	1	...	1	8	2	10	139	58	197	
Punjab	31	6	37	7	...	7	3	...	3	2	...	2	...	...	...	6	...	6	9	1	10	2	...	2	1	1	2	61	8	69	
Nepaul	7	4	11	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	1	12	2	...	2	5	1	6	5	...	5	35	6	41	
Mix Madras, Bombay, &c. ...	551	296	847	86	45	131	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	73	40	113	13	5	18	5	...	5	273	206	479	1,002	592	1,594	
Grand Total ...	5,448	2,840	8,288	1,467	684	2,151	602	294	896	314	174	461	364	215	579	797	295	1,092	1,606	730	2,336	225	99	324	1,621	740	2,361	12,444	6,044	18,488	

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

Brahmins, high caste	537	249	786	215	92	307	88	39	127	26	14	40	30	15	45	156	60	216	233	65	298	36	24	60	286	78	344	1,587	636	2,223	
Agriculturists } Hindoos ...	1,306	545	1,853	408	153	561	196	66	262	93	44	137	108	51	159	224	51	275	431	158	589	87	24	111	413	78	491	3,268	1,170	4,438	
Artizans } Hindoos ...	205	83	288	65	36	101	19	4	23	9	1	10	7	7	14	56	22	78	71	30	101	14	6	20	86	42	128	532	231	763	
Low castes } Hindoos ...	2,908	1,617	4,425	586	292	878	257	151	408	145	69	214	186	124	310	279	109	388	668	387	1,055	53	29	82	668	379	1,047	5,650	3,157	8,807	
Mussulmans	585	346	931	198	111	304	42	34	76	41	19	60	33	18	51	82	52	134	202	90	292	35	16	51	188	163	351	1,401	849	2,250	
Christians	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	7	
Grand Total ...	5,448	2,840	8,288	1,467	684	2,151	602	294	896	314	147	461	364	215	579	797	295	1,092	1,606	730	2,336	225	99	324	1,621	740	2,361	12,444	6,044	18,488	

Memorandum.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Hindoos	11,037	5,194	16,231
2. Mussulmans	1,401	849	2,250
3. Christians	6	1	7
Total ...	12,444	6,044	18,488

V. RICHARDS,
Officiating Protector of Emigrants.

E. F. M.—Regt. No. 3681—190—1-8-78.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

CALCUTTA, THE 12TH SEPTEMBER 1878.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The report of the Protector of Emigrants to British and Foreign Colonies during the year ending 31st March 1878.

Read again—

The reports of the two previous years, with the orders of Government thereon.

EMIGRATION to the colonies appears to have received a remarkable impulse during 1877-78, partly no doubt from the well directed measures of the Emigration Agents, but mainly owing to the scarcity in Oudh and the North-Western Provinces, whence the larger proportion of the supply of colonial emigrants is usually drawn. In consequence of the combined operation of these causes, the number of emigrants actually despatched rose from 7,734 in 1876-77 to 18,488 in the past year. In view of this extraordinary activity of recruiting operations continuous efforts were made by Government to guard against abuses, one important step taken being to require all unauthorized sub-agents to take out licenses as recruiters so as to bring them within the control of the law. The attention of the District Magistrates was also drawn to certain points in respect of which their careful co-operation is essential to the success of emigration, and a variety of minor reforms have been or are being introduced with the object of providing for the health and comfort of the emigrants during their stay in Calcutta and on the voyage to the colony for which they have engaged. Sir Ashley Eden has on several occasions expressed opinions in favour of encouraging emigration to British colonies, not only as affording an outlet for the surplus population of the overcrowded districts of Behar and the North-Western Provinces, but as indirectly tending to raise the standard of living among Indian labourers. He therefore views with satisfaction the increase last year in the number of emigrants.

2. The duties of Protector of Emigrants were discharged by five different officers during the year, and the present incumbent, Dr. V. Richards, only took charge of the work on the 16th March 1878. These changes were unfortunate but unavoidable, and it does not appear that the business of the office was materially affected by them.

3. Under the orders of the Government of India some important alterations were made during the year in Rule 23 which regulates the proportion of female to male emigrants, the object of the modifications being to reduce the number of women despatched during the monsoon months when the voyage is supposed to be more trying to weak persons, and increase the number shipped later in the season. Some practical difficulty has been found in enforcing the new rules, and in the case of the Colony of Guadeloupe they have been relaxed for the present season. At the close of the season a special report on their working will be submitted to the Government of India, and it may then be a matter for consideration whether it is worth while to maintain a distinction of the kind.

4. Nine emigration agencies were at work during 1877-78, being three more than in the previous year. This increase was due to the opening of agencies

for the three colonies of Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Lucia. The emigration business of these colonies, together with that of Trinidad, was, however, transacted by a single agent, and a similar arrangement was followed during the past year for the colonies of Demerara and Natal. Mauritius, Surinam, and Guadeloupe have separate agents. Thus the work of the nine agencies is, in fact, conducted by five agents, two of whom are members of mercantile firms in Calcutta. The Lieutenant-Governor fears that the supervision of the detailed work of an emigration agency cannot always be properly attended to by gentlemen who are occupied with important business on their own account, and in the event of the emigration to Guadeloupe and Surinam increasing, it may be necessary to recommend that separate and independent agents be appointed.

5. In 1876-77, the number of admissions to depôts was 9,417, while in the past year they rose to 22,544. Nor is this due merely to the opening of the three fresh agencies, and to the resumption of operations by the Surinam agency from which no emigrants were despatched in the previous year. These causes account for only 2,963, or less than one-fourth of the total increase, the balance being due to the greater number of admissions to existing depôts. Thus Demerara recruited 9,688 emigrants against 4,746 in 1876-77, while Mauritius collected 3,044 against 1,274, and Guadeloupe 2,733 against 441.

6. That this conspicuous rise in the number of admissions should have been attended by some enhancement of the death-rate is no more than might have been expected looking to the circumstances under which many of the emigrants were recruited. During 1876-77, 9,417 coolies were received into the depôts. Forty out of the number died, showing a death-rate of 4·20 per thousand. In the past year, 168 emigrants died out of 22,544 admitted, representing a death-rate of 7·40 per thousand. The Protector of Emigrants observes that, comparing the death-rate with the average number of days' detention (25), it appears that the annual rate of mortality was 111 per thousand, and adds that the death-rate in the Mauritius and Guadeloupe depôts amounted on this calculation to the abnormally high figure of 160 per thousand. Apart from certain minor discrepancies in the calculations which need not be noticed here, the Lieutenant-Governor must remark that the argument implied by the Protector's statement is after all somewhat fallacious. It is obvious that the death-rate among intending emigrants during their detention in depôt represents the mortality arising partly from the changed conditions of their life, and partly from the weeding out of the weaker members, to whose "anœmic and ill-fed condition" the Protector has called attention. This initial death-rate can in no way be regarded as an index to the probable mortality during an entire year, and to put forward a death-rate of 111 per thousand, as representing the annual mortality among coolies, while awaiting embarkation, might suggest erroneous conclusions as to the unhealthiness of the depôts. It may, however, be noted that the Mauritius depôt nearly always shows a greater mortality than the other depôts, and the Protector considers this partly due to the fact that its chief recruiting ground is Behar, where the emigrating classes are sickly and anœmic. In the Guadeloupe depôt also a high mortality and a large proportion of Behari emigrants were found to be coincident.

7. The proportion of infant mortality was undoubtedly high. Out of the 168 deaths which occurred in the depôts, 109 or 65 per cent. of the total were those of children, while among adults, there were 59 deaths, being 35 per cent. of the recorded mortality. In the Guadeloupe depôt, the death-rate among infants amounted to 10 per cent. The Protector should make enquiry into the circumstances attending this heavy mortality, and should endeavour to introduce some special precautions against its recurrence. It is not enough to say that the emigrants were Beharis. In the case of infants proper and timely feeding arrangements would probably prevent any great mortality. Cholera and diarrhœa caused the largest number of deaths, and these are the diseases which would most naturally be induced among coolies by the journey from their homes to Calcutta, and their change of food and of habits of life. Small-pox, however, caused 18 of the deaths, and chest affections 21. The Protector points out that, in consequence of medical examination in the districts of recruitment not being compulsory under Act VII of 1871, a large number of coolies on arriving at the depôts are found to be physically unfit to emigrate.

This point will be brought to the notice of the Government of India for consideration in connection with the proposed amendment of the Colonial Emigration Act.

8. Although the average period during which coolies were detained in depôt before emigration fell from 29 days in 1876-77 to 25 days in 1877-78, cases of exceptionally long detention occurred in the depôts of the Jamaica, Guadeloupe, and Surinam agencies. In the two former the detention was due to disease among the emigrants, but the Surinam coolies were detained by the non-arrival of the steamer which had been chartered to convey them.

9. During 1876-77 recruiters' licenses were granted to 306 persons, while in the past year, although the number of intending emigrants more than doubled, the number of licenses granted, was not above 375, being an increase of only 69. It is explained by the Protector that 86 licenses granted at the end of 1876-77 continued in force during the next season, so that in fact 461 licensed recruiters were at work. Although many of these recruiters worked only for a few months of the year, each of them appears to have recruited on an average no less than 48 emigrants. The Protector points out that the recruiters employed in inland emigration, although they work all the year round, obtain an average of only 14 coolies a piece, and suggests the inference that illegal recruitment is more largely resorted to in colonial than in inland emigration. It is by no means clear to the Lieutenant-Governor that this conclusion is correct. There is some reason to believe that the numbers of colonial emigrants are swelled by the transfer to colonial recruiters of coolies already collected in inland depôts, and the question of allowing this is now under the consideration of Government. But excluding this special mode of obtaining emigrants, the Lieutenant-Governor is disposed to think that the comparative paucity of the numbers recruited by the recruiters for the tea districts is sufficiently accounted for by the excessive competition for coolies of the class most sought after, and by the fact that, the districts in which recruitment for inland emigration has hitherto been mainly carried on, are far less thickly peopled than those to which colonial recruiters resort. It is satisfactory to find that the orders requiring sub-agents to take out recruiters' licenses are stated to have produced a good effect, and that greater vigilance has been shown by the registering officers in recruiting districts.

10. Enquiry was made during the year into the truth of a statement that, although the right to a return-passage is unconditionally guaranteed to Indian emigrants in the French colonies by the Convention executed between the French and British Governments in 1861, that right is liable to forfeiture under an earlier local law if the immigrant has undergone criminal or corrective condemnation in the local courts. It was stated by the Governor of Guadeloupe that this provision was still in force, but that in practice no recourse was had to it, and that return-passages were always granted to immigrants who applied for them, whether they had been condemned or not. The Guadeloupe administration, however, expressed their willingness to repeal the obnoxious section. The Lieutenant-Governor certainly thinks that the law must be brought into harmony with the Convention, and the Government of India has been addressed with the view of bringing this about.

11. In 1875-76 the number of emigrants indented for by the colonies who receive emigrants from India was 12,965 statute adults, and the number actually despatched was 7,138½ statute adults or 7,734 persons. In the past year the demand of the colonies rose to 15,036 statute adults, and this was more than complied with by the despatch of 16,092 statute adults, or 18,488 souls. It is observed that the Mauritius demand is stated in the return as 830 males, while 2,034 persons were actually despatched. The Protector furnishes no explanation of this excess in the supply. It would appear moreover from the fact that the number of statute adults corresponds exactly with that of persons, that no children accompanied the 2,034 emigrants who went to Mauritius during the past year. The Protector should report whether this was the case, and generally explain these figures, noting specially what arrangements were made by the Agent to select emigrants who had no children under 10 years old dependent upon them. Out of 18,488 persons who emigrated during the year, 306 were returned emigrants, who in most cases went back to the colony where they had previously served.

12. In reviewing the reports on colonial emigration for the years 1875-76 and 1876-77, the Lieutenant-Governor directed the attention of the Protector to the discrepancies between the number of emigrants registered as shown in the returns furnished by district officers and the number reported by the Emigration Agents as having arrived in Calcutta. A circular was also addressed to Magistrates of recruiting districts in Bengal, and the Government of the North-Western Provinces were requested to issue instructions to officers subordinate to them. It is hoped that these measures will enable the Protector to detect the irregular operations of unscrupulous recruiters in future. The returns of 1877-78 do not show any improvement in this respect. The reports received from the Magistrates during the past year showed that 21,356 emigrants were registered in the districts, while 22,544 were actually admitted into the depôts. There is apparently no evidence to show that the excess number of 1,188 were ever registered at all. According to the reports of the Emigration Agents the numbers recruited in the districts and registered were 23,476, showing that 2,120 persons were unaccounted for by the local officers' returns. The provisions of the law on the subject appear, however, to be sufficient if properly enforced. By section 27 the registering Magistrate is required to furnish every emigrant with a copy of his registration written on substantial paper, while under section 28 a copy of each registration must be sent to the Emigration Agent and the Protector. From the wording of section 27 it is obviously the intention of the law that emigrants should retain with them the copy of their registration which is given to them by the Magistrate, and this condition should be strictly enforced. It may be suggested that coolies cannot be trusted to retain their copies of registration during the journey to Calcutta, but under section 32 all emigrants must be accompanied by a recruiter or an authorized substitute, and these men might take charge of the copies of registration of the emigrants forming their party. They should be instructed under no circumstances to bring emigrants to Calcutta without obtaining copies of their registration, and emigrants who are not provided with copies of their registration under section 27 should not be admitted into a depôt unless the copies required by section 28 have been received, and the emigrants can be identified as the persons therein referred to. It should be understood that, when no intimation of the registration has been sent to the Protector under section 28, the burden of proving that any emigrant was legally recruited must rest upon the agency and its subordinates.

13. The following statement compiled from the Protector's report explains how it was that, although 22,544 emigrants were received into the depôts, only 18,488, or 82 per cent., were actually despatched to the colonies :—

Admitted into depôt	22,544
Rejected as unfit to labour or as dependent on emigrants unfit to labour	1,737
Unwilling to emigrate	155
Claimed by relatives	49
Deserted	1,037
Died	168
Total casualties	3,146

It will be observed that the difference between the number admitted and the number despatched is 4,056, of which 3,146 persons are accounted for by the causes detailed above, while the remaining 910 are described by the Protector as forming an "unrequired surplus at the end of the season." Dr. Richards also remarks that the numbers under this head were rather too numerous in some cases, but that, as the coolies were generally transferred through the Emigration Department to other agencies, no particular hardship resulted to the intending emigrants. This observation is not fully understood. *Primâ facie* it would appear that the transfer of an emigrant to a different agency from that for which he elected before he left his district is likely to be attended with

some hardship to the emigrant, and in any case his choice cannot be exercised so freely in Calcutta as in his native district. The Protector should explain in greater detail what becomes of this unrequired surplus of emigrants, and under what safe-guards the transfers of which he speaks are conducted.

14. It appears from the detailed returns furnished by the Protector that of the 1,737 persons rejected as unfit to labour or as dependent on persons unfit to labour, 977 or 10·10 per cent. of its admissions were rejected by the Demerara Agency, 186 or 6 59 per cent. by Trinidad, and 78 or 15·47 per cent. by Surinam. It is stated moreover that the agents for Demerara and the West Indian Colonies employ medical men to examine intending emigrants in the recruiting districts, and have made every effort to reduce the number of rejections. The Lieutenant-Governor would wish further enquiry to be made into this matter. The agents are said to give liberal allowances to the medical men who conduct the examinations; but it is evident from the large proportion of rejections in Calcutta that the examinations in the districts must have been most cursory and insufficient. Some information as to the class of medical examiners employed and the rate of payment made to them is desirable. In the case of Surinam the very high proportion of rejections is explained by the anxiety of the Dutch Government to obtain thoroughly healthy emigrants, and it must be admitted that the results of this stringent selection appear to have been satisfactory, for the mortality on the voyage and on arrival at Surinam was unusually low. But the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that, if an exceptionally high standard is to be insisted upon, the Surinam agency would do well to secure a more thorough medical examination of the emigrants in the districts where they are recruited. The hardship of bringing down a large number of men from their homes and then rejecting them, to return home worn out and disappointed is very great, and constitutes an abuse which the Protector must bring under control.

15. The proportion of persons who declined to emigrate after admission into depôt was small in all the agencies, except that of Surinam. where it amounted to 3·96 per cent. It is stated in explanation of this that "their number was considerably augmented by a batch of dancing girls and women of a similar description, with their male attendants. These people laughed at the idea of becoming agriculturists." This circumstance seems to indicate that very imperfect supervision was exercised over the recruiting staff of that agency, and it should be considered whether licenses should be granted again to the recruiters who were concerned in this very injudicious selection of intending emigrants. It is also observed that the desertions from the Surinam depôt amounted to 10 59 per cent. of the number admitted. The Agent considers that this was due to an unusually long detention in the depôt (the average period of detention was 47 days) to the prevalence of very high wages in Calcutta, and to an intrigue between some designing coolies and one of the durwans at the depôt. The matter called for special enquiry by the Protector. A practice has recently been detected of entering as deserters the ineffective relatives of coolies who die in hospital, while in fact these people are frightened or driven away from the depôts. Every case of desertion should form the subject of strict investigation. There is reason to believe that the class of men who are usually employed in the offices and as servants at coolie depôts need very close supervision. None of the coolies admitted into the Mauritius depôt declined to emigrate, but on the other hand no less than 344 or 11·24 per cent. deserted. It should be explained by the Agent how it was that not one of the 344 persons who thus practically showed themselves unwilling to emigrate, made any formal application for release from engagement.

16. The rule requiring the shipment of at least forty women for every hundred men was complied with during the year by all the agencies, except those of Mauritius, Demerara, and Guadeloupe. The returns for Mauritius show a deficiency of 3 and those for Natal of 42, which will be made up during the current year. Guadeloupe started with a deficit of 192 and made up only 11; so that 181 women beyond the standard proportion remain to be supplied in the present season. The Protector should see that the Guadeloupe agency carries out the requirements of the rule. It is satisfactory to find that the Demerara agency, which commenced the year with a deficiency of 40, has now embarked the proper proportion.

17. The following statement shows the provinces from which the emigrants despatched to the colonies were recruited during the last two years :—

	1876-77.	1877-78.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	4,279	13,254
Behar	2,446	3,038
Bengal	470	268
Madras, Bombay, &c.	266	1,594
Native States	94	41
Punjab and Dependencies	51	69
Central India	108	197
Orissa	20	18
Total ...	7,734	18,488

It will be observed that the number of persons from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh who emigrated to the colonies was nearly trebled in the past year. As the increase in emigration from Behar was no more than proportioned to the enhanced demand of the colonies and the vigorous recruitment which went on to make up for the deficient supply in 1875-76, it may be concluded, as already remarked, that the distress which prevailed in Oude and in parts of the North-Western Provinces formed a strong inducement to emigration in 1877-78. In Bengal itself the number of emigrants, always small, shows a considerable decrease. As regards emigration from Madras and Bombay, it must obviously be quite exceptional for natives of those Presidencies to emigrate through Calcutta, but even in this case the famine has had its effect in raising the number of these casual emigrants from 266 to 1,594.

18. During 1877-78 no fewer than 37 sailing ships and one steamer left the port of Calcutta with emigrants, against 18 vessels in the previous year. The average number of emigrants conveyed in each ship was 486. Of the 26 vessels for which detailed information is available, the *Botanist* and the *Jorawar* show the highest rate of mortality, 4·62 and 4·56 per cent. respectively. The most successful voyage was made by the steamer *Clive*, which took 324 emigrants to Surinam without a single death. It is not quite clear, however, why the passage should have occupied so long as 77 days. In 1872, the steamer *Enmore* ran from Calcutta to Demerara in 49 days, and it was stated that the distance would have been accomplished even sooner if the vessel had been supplied with good coal, and had not met with headwinds in rounding the Cape of Good Hope. The Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to know if there were any special circumstances which delayed the *Clive*, and whether she was a full-power or an auxiliary steamer. A proposal has recently been made by the Government of Demerara to employ a steamer in the transport of emigrants to that colony, and the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed his opinion as to the class of vessel which should be built. The highest mortality was on a vessel which had been used for carrying salt on the previous voyage and remained damp accordingly. The agents should avoid chartering salt ships for emigrants.

19. As many as 2,544 emigrants returned from the various colonies in 1877-78, bringing with them acknowledged savings in money, amounting to Rs. 4,72,926, or an average of Rs. 185 per head. In addition to this, many of them possessed valuable jewellery. The Emigration Agent for Trinidad has placed on record some remarkable instances of the successes of Indian immigrants in that colony, and forwards an extract from a report by a Moravian Missionary furnishing satisfactory evidence of the material prosperity of immigrants in Demerara. It is curious to note that three Indian coolies run thorough bred horses in the local races, frequently winning prizes to a considerable amount. In the town of San Fernando 22 of the burgesses are men who were originally ordinary Indian coolies, and one of them died lately leaving a fortune of Rs. 1,34,000. On the other hand, among the great mass of the coolies there is said to be much drunkenness, and want of cleanliness, with a tendency to

imitate the lazy habits of the Creole or Negro laborers. The Lieutenant-Governor is also sorry to gather from the Colonial report for 1877, lately received, that in Trinidad the number of Indian children at school is not so great as it should be.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, and to the Officiating Protector of Emigrants, for information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 3204.

COPY submitted to the Government of India, in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, for information.

No. 3205.

COPY forwarded to the Officiating Protector of Emigrants for information and guidance.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

CALCUTTA,
The 12th September 1878.

W. H.—Reg. No. 5108—13-9-78.

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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA

TO

BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES

FOR

1879-80.

HIGH COURT
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BY

J. G. G. GRANT, Esq., M.D.,

Protector of Emigrants.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1880.

...GAL ...CRETARI...

No. 1203, dated Calcutta, the 18th September 1880.

From—J. G. GARROW GRANT, ESQ., M.D., Protector of Emigrants,
To—The Under-Secy. to the Government of Bengal.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of Government, the annual report on emigration under Act VII of 1871 from Calcutta to British and foreign colonies for the year ending the 31st March 1880, together with the annual returns (marginally noted) for the same period.

1. Annual return of emigrants despatched to Demerara.
2. Ditto ditto ditto Trinidad.
3. Ditto ditto ditto Jamaica.
4. Ditto ditto ditto St. Lucia.
5. Ditto ditto ditto St Vincent.
6. Ditto ditto ditto Mauritius.
7. Ditto ditto ditto Surinam.
8. Ditto ditto ditto Guadeloupe.
9. Table exhibiting the number of emigrants to and from the West India colonies.
10. Table exhibiting the number of emigrants to and from Mauritius and Réunion.

The form in which the report is now submitted differs somewhat from that hitherto adopted, as an effort has been made to deal with the events of the year, as far as possible, in the order in which they occurred, and under headings that group together such facts as may be most conveniently considered in relation to each other.

ANNUAL REPORT ON EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA TO BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES FOR 1879-80.

SECTION I.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

Revision of the scales regulating supplies for the voyage.

IN May 1879 the entire set of scales (schedule E, emigration rules) regulating the supplies of food, water, clothing, medical stores, utensils, and attendants for emigrants proceeding to the several colonies was brought under revision, and was so readjusted as to include the scales relating to emigrants bound to Natal and Fiji. Viewed in relation to the climatic conditions and length of passage in each case, they were grouped in the following manner:—

GROUP.	Estimated length of passage for sailing vessels in weeks.	Climatic conditions experienced.
I.		
Mauritius and Réunion	8 to 10	Tropical.
Fiji *vid* Torres Straits: now, however, considered impracticable for sailing vessels	11	
II.		
Natal	12	Subtropical.
III.		
Fiji *vid* Tasmania	18	Temperate, or nearly so.
The West Indies and the Guianas	20	

The passage *vid* Torres Straits to Fiji has, however, been excluded as impracticable except for steamers, and the length of passage by that route in steamers has been estimated at six weeks.

Suggested amendment of rule 107, prohibiting corporal punishment of emigrants on the passage.

2. Besides the revision of the scales and alterations that were suggested in regard to some of the fittings provided on board emigrant ships (schedule B), an amendment of rule 107 was also proposed, prohibiting altogether the infliction of corporal punishment on emigrants guilty of misconduct during the passage.

3. The question of the amendment of the Indian Emigration Act being at the time under the consideration of the Government of India, it was considered advisable to postpone the publication of the revised emigration rules and scales till the amended Act itself is passed.

Publication of the revised emigration rules and scales postponed till amended Emigration Act is passed.

4. Rule 23 of the emigration rules originally fixed for every shipment, irrespective of the season, the proportion of at least 40 women to every hundred men; but in order to obviate the mortality noticed among children on the passage in vessels leaving Calcutta during the months of August, September, and October, or the early part of the emigration season, rules 23, 23A, 23B, reducing the number of women to be despatched during those wet and stormy months, and proportionately increasing the number for the subsequent fine weather months, were introduced and published in the *Gazette of India* of the 28th July 1877.

Of the proportion of women to men that should be shipped.

The new rules, however, were not found to work satisfactorily, and in a report called for by Government it was shewn that the object of the new rules had not been attained; that they occasioned serious inconvenience not only in the recruitment and despatch of emigrants from this country, but in the ultimate allotment and distribution of the women in the colonies to which they were sent; and that, as already suggested by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the abrogation of the rules and the restoration of the old rule 23 seemed most desirable. Accordingly in September 1879 orders issued to the effect that till the 1st of November of that year the emigration agents would be at liberty to embark any proportion of women between 25 and 40 to every 100 men that might be found to be most convenient to them, and that for the rest of that season the rules then existing should be maintained. It was, however, at the same time intimated that the old rule 23 would be restored with effect from the 1st of August 1880.

5. In June 1879 the question was raised as to whether the after compartments of vessels chartered for the conveyance of emigrants should be permitted to carry a portion of the drinking-water for the use of those on board. Two reports were submitted on this subject, and orders were subsequently received from Government permitting for the present the use of such compartments for the storage of drinking-water, provided that they are before each voyage certified to be water tight, and that the ship concerned carries a condensing machine capable of supplying the full daily allowance of water in case the water in the compartment becomes unfit for use. It was at the same time pointed out that a separate and distinct *tank*, constructed *inside* the after compartment, would obviate all risk.

After compartments of emigrant ships fitted as tanks and allowed for the storage of water under certain restrictions.

6. About the end of September 1879 complaints were made by emigration sub-agents of the difficulty and delay they experienced in the registration of women as intending emigrants. At the instance of the Emigration Agent for Demerara enquiries were made through this office, in communication with several registering officers, as to the means they would recommend for adoption by recruiting agents in order to reduce, if not to obviate, such delay and difficulty as was alleged to exist, more particularly in certain districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The obstruction said to have been put in the way of recruiters was ascribed chiefly to the instructions conveyed in a circular issued to registering officers by the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. Those instructions pointed out that in all cases when married women are presented for registration, especially where they usually reside in another district, it should be ascertained whether the husband is alive or dead, and in the former case, whether he objects to his wife's emigrating; that special care is necessary in the case of female recruits, as the great difficulty experienced in making up the prescribed proportion of 40 women to every 100 men tempts recruiters to kidnap females; that every precaution should be taken to make certain that the women brought up for registration fully understand the terms of their engagement; and that no recruits belonging to other districts should be registered unless there is reason to believe that they have not come to the place of registration solely on the

Difficulty and delay complained of by emigration agencies in the recruitment of women.

inducements of recruiters or their emissaries. From the replies, and in some instances full explanations, obligingly furnished by the Magistrates addressed, it was clear that delays had occurred in regard to the registration of women as intending emigrants who belonged to other districts; but it was also very evident that whatever delays had been experienced were attributable to the negligence, if not misconduct, of the recruiters concerned. The circular of the Government of the North-Western Provinces was evoked by a case of seduction from her home of a married woman of the Azimgurh district, who was removed for registration to the Jounpore district, in order apparently to defeat detection of the means employed in her recruitment. I need hardly observe that, in view of the irregularities that have been and are still committed in connection with recruitment, I am decidedly of opinion that registering officers in the recruiting districts cannot, as pointed out in the circular above noticed, be too careful in their examination of intending emigrants. It has been urged, however, that it is hard for those who are honest to be subjected to restrictions and expenses that should be laid upon those only who are dishonest; that the class of women willing to emigrate consists principally of young widows and married or single women who have already gone astray, and are therefore not only most anxious to avoid their homes and to conceal their antecedents, but are also at the same time the least likely to be received back into their families. But even admitting the truth of what has been advanced as applicable for the most part to the class of women generally recruited, as such an admission cannot include *every case*, and as it is simply impossible for registering officers to arrive at the truth by merely questioning the coolies, it is by no means clear, under the circumstances, how the necessary enquiries and the delays they occasion can be altogether obviated, unless indeed the Act be amended and the responsibility of the enquiry as to the antecedents of intending emigrants be attached to recruiters and their employers, leaving the Magistrates no option but to register, except in glaringly suspicious and deceptive cases, all brought before them for registration.

The position of the emigration agents, who are bound on the one hand under emigration rules to ship at least 40 women to every 100 men, and are also bound on the other hand, under liability to demurrage, to dispatch their ships on fixed dates, is necessarily a very trying one when women who are willing to emigrate are not only scarce, but are also detained for enquiry in the recruiting districts.

In view, however, of existing provisions regulating recruitment, and of the circumstances that specially surround the securing of female recruits in this country, I cannot but feel that Government has already done all that can be done consistently with the requirements of the Act and the protection of the interests of its subjects; for looking to the possibility that the circular orders of the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh may in some instances have been too rigidly interpreted, if not misinterpreted, by registering officers, the views of the Government of India in letter No. 218 of the 24th December 1879, while strong in upholding the principles asserted in those orders, are clearly favorable to the adoption of measures in connection with the duties of registration that admit of the exercise of a wider discretion in the interpretation of standing orders, and thus materially diminish the difficulties that would otherwise surround the registration of intending emigrants.

Of the compulsory medical examination of intending emigrants in the recruiting districts.

7. The proposal to render compulsory the medical examination of intending emigrants in the districts of recruitment was dealt with during the year. Considering the large percentage of the aggregate number of emigrants rejected as unfit for labour by the several colonial agencies collectively, it is unquestionably very necessary to introduce measures that will at least reduce the hardship of such rejections being made *subsequent* to registration, and after arrival in Calcutta. But as it is considered that such compulsory medical examination would interfere in a most undesirable manner with the full freedom and right of selection now properly belonging to, and exercised by, the several emigration agencies, it has been proposed instead, and regarded as preferable, that some compensation be awarded to coolies who subsequent to registration are rejected on account of their unfitness for labour.

8. The question as to the necessity for deputing an officer to visit and report periodically upon the condition of Indian emigrants in the several British colonies also came under consideration, and a report was submitted to the effect that the appointment of such an officer not appearing immediately necessary might be postponed till there are sufficient grounds for believing the suggested measure to be absolutely necessary.

Proposed appointment of an officer to visit and report periodically on the condition of coolies in the British colonies.

9. For years past the practice prevailed for the master of every vessel bound to an emigration port to obtain from this office a certificate stating that the native passengers, if any, about to be conveyed are not intending emigrants coming under the provisions of Act VII of 1871. In conection with this procedure masters had to produce certificates of the above nature for the satisfaction of the Customs Department even when they carried no native passenger whatever. The inutility of the certificate in the latter case was self evident; and the question having been raised by the Collector of Customs as to the necessity of its production, it was held by me that it might well be dispensed with, and a certificate from the master direct, to the effect that no native passengers will be carried, might be substituted. The matter came subsequently under the consideration of Government, and in the communication No. 2197, of the 13th July last, from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, the suggestion met with approval. Thus masters of vessels not intending to carry native passengers are now relieved of a requisition that entailed unnecessary trouble and delay.

Masters of vessels bound to emigration ports, but not carrying native passengers, exempted from producing certificates hitherto required.

SECTION II.

THE EMIGRATION AGENCIES.

The agencies in operation during the year are given in the subjoined statement. Those for Natal and Fiji were closed, and that for St. Vincent, which had been closed since season 1874-75, was reopened under the management of Mr. Mitchell, whose appointment as Emigration Agent for that colony was approved of by Government on the 6th of December 1879. Mr. Eales returned from leave and relieved Mr. Firth of the charge of the Mauritius agency on the 6th November 1879 :—

Colonies.	Agencies.	Emigration Agent.	Date of approval of appointment.	Situation of depôts.
Mauritius	British	Mr. C. Eales	21st July 1863	Bhowanipore, near Tolly's Nullah.
Demerara	Ditto	„ H. A Firth	19th February 1872	No. 8 Garden Reach.
Trinidad	Ditto	„ R. W. S Mitchell	6th June 1874	No. 9 ditto.
Jamaica	Ditto	Ditto	26th March 1877	Ditto.
St. Lucia	Ditto	Ditto	24th December 1877	Ditto.
St. Vincent	Ditto	Ditto	6th December 1879	Ditto.
Surinam	Dutch	E. Vancutsem	27th April 1876	No. 20 ditto.
Guadeloupe	French	F. Charriol	10th October 1876	No. 8, Meetapooker Lane.
		R. Quillet, officiating	13th June 1878	Garden Reach.

I would here record the uniformly ready and cheerful co-operation of every agent in the discharge of my duties as Protector of Emigrants. With every desire to avoid invidious distinctions, I cannot but notice the constant efforts of Mr. Mitchell to prevent any irregularities being committed by his recruiting staff, while the general condition of the depôts throughout the year reflects credit on the management of the several agents, and affords evidence of the interest they take in them.

The total number of emigrants required by the colonies, British and foreign, taken collectively, was smaller than that of the previous year by 3,265 statute adults, and appears on the whole to have been fairly supplied; for while Jamaica received the exact number required, Demerara, St. Lucia, and

Guadeloupe received numbers in excess, and Trinidad, St. Vincent, and Surinam only a few short of their requirements.

Colonies.	1878-79.			1879-80		
	Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	Number despatched represented as		Number of statute adults required by the colonies	Number despatched represented as	
		Statute adults.	Souls.		Statute adults.	Souls.
Demerara	6,000	5,943½	6,520	4,000	4,161	4 486
Trinidad	2,400	2,395½	2 632	2,912	2,889	3,161
Jamaica	150	152	165	689	689	756
St Lucia	200	202½	221	60	60½	66
St Vincent	....	....		200	196	214
Mauritius	Males 445	*1,008½	1,220	Males 225	*479½	539
Natal	,, 1,000	1,617½	1,734	. ..	.. ..	
Fiji	400	450	498			
Surinam	600	623	709	300	297	320
Guadeloupe	1,900	1,911½	2,166	1,450	1,522	1 685
Total	13,095	14,224	15,865	9,836	10,294	11,236

* This number includes the women despatched. Requisitions from Mauritius specify the number of men only, and leave the number of women to be adjusted by the rule regulating the proportion of women.

It appears from the above table that the demands for labour from Trinidad and Jamaica were larger, while the demands from Demerara, Mauritius, Surinam, Guadeloupe, and St. Lucia were smaller than those of the year 1878-79.

The terms offered to intending emigrants by the several colonies, and shewn in the subjoined tabular statement, did not differ from those of the previous year except in the case of British and Dutch Guiana respectively. In regard to those of British Guiana, Mr. Firth intimated in July 1879 that in accordance with the existing diet scale sanctioned by the Government of Demerara he had amended article V (scale of rations) of the terms of agreement on which Indian emigrants were to be engaged for that colony. In submitting the revised scale for the approval of Government, it was observed that it did not appear to possess any decided advantage over the former one, except that it provided flour, which is likely to be preferred by the majority of emigrants, who are flour-eaters. Formerly 12 chittacks of rice and 2 chittacks of dâl were allowed to each adult. The rice has been reduced to 4 chittacks, and the dâl 1½ chittack, the reduction being apparently counterbalanced by the substitution of one seer yams, plantains, sweet potatoes, tannias, cassava or corn meal, or half a seer of flour. It was noticed that salt had been altogether omitted; and, looking to the importance of that article, the Government of India has desired to be informed of the reason for the omission, but the reply from the colony to the enquiry made on this question through Mr. Firth has not yet been received, though it is expected shortly. In the case of Dutch Guiana the terms as a whole continued the same as those offered during the previous year, but the amended form of contract approved of by the Government of India in letter No. 71, of the 25th April 1878, and of course adopted during the year under review, modified clauses 15 and 16 of the earlier form, and gave "fuller and more exact expression to the change of policy in respect of the extension of indenture for imprisonment for offences against the labour and general laws of the colony, and for desertion."

The terms offered to intending emigrants by the several colonies through their recruiting agents are shown in the following tabular statement :—

Colony.	Classification of emigrants.	Period of indenture.	Work.		Wages,—minimum rate claimable.	Rations.		Dwelling-house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage when claimable.
			Nature.	Duration.		Prescribed.	Period of supply.			
British Guiana ...	Adult males from 15 and upwards. Males from 10 to 15, and females above 10 years of age.	Five years	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours in the fields or ten hours in the buildings in each day.	Rs. A. P. Daily— 24 cents ... = 0 8 0 16 ,, ... = 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	To each adult of and above 15 years of age, at a cost of two annas and eight pies daily— Chittack. Kancha. Rice ... ... 4 0 Dâl ... ... 1½ 0 Cocoanut-oil or ghee ... ... 0½ 0 Massala ... ... 0 1½ Sugar ... ... 1 0 Yams, plantains, sweet potatoes, tannias, cassava or corn meal 1 seer, or flour ½ seer. To each minor of and above ten and under 15 years of age, half the above quantities at half the cost; and to each infant under 10 years of age, one-third the above quantities free of cost.	From the first date of delivery to any employer until the first day of October then next following.	Free of charge ...	Free of charge	After ten years' continuous residence in the colony, five of them being under indenture.
Trinidad	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and nine hours each day.	Daily— 1s. 0½d. ... = 0 8 4 Payable fortnightly.	For adults from 10 years and upwards :— Rice ... ... 1lb Dâl ... ... 4oz. Ghee or cocoanut-oil ... 1 ,, Sugar ... ... 2 ,, (Daily.) For non-adults from 5 to 10 years, half the above scale.	For two years at a cost of 2 annas and 8 pies per ration, free of charge.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Jamaica	Adult males from 16 years and upwards. Males from 12 to 16 years, and females of any age.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Daily— 1s. ... ... = 0 8 0 9d. ... ... = 0 6 0	For adults :— Rice ... ... 1½lb Or corn meal ... ... 2 ,, Or cooked cassava ... ... 3 ,, Raw ditto ... ... 5 ,, ,, yams or cocoas ... 4 ,, Split peas ... ... 8 ,, Salt-fish ... ... 6 ,, Or mutton, beef, or goat flesh ... ... 8 ,, Ghee ... ... 1 ,, Or sweet or cocoanut-oil ... 1 pt. Salt ... ... 1 lb Dry pepper or pimento ... 2 oz. Fuel, sufficient ... ... (Monthly.)	For the first three months or, if necessary, for the whole period of indenture, at maximum cost of 3s. 6d. weekly.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
St. Lucia	Same as it is in Trinidad.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Same as it is in Trinidad.	Same as it is in Trinidad.	Same as it is in Trinidad.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.

St Vincent	Adult males above 16 years. From 8 to 16 years Under 8 „	Ditto ...	Ditto ..	Ditto .	Daily— 10d. 6d 3d.	For adult — Rice . . .. 10lb Salt-fish ... . 3 „ Ghee ... . . 1 „ Weekly Children between 8 and 16 two-thirds of above, and under 8 years half the above.	For first month free of charge.	Ditto	Ditto .	Ditto
Mauritius ...	Ma'es— Adults above 18 years „ 15 to 18 „ „ 12 to 15 „ Minors above 10 to 12 years. Females— Adults Male return emigrants above 18 years. Male return emigrants above 14 to 18 years	Ditto	Ditto and domestic service.	Ditto ..	Monthly— 10s. ... ... = 5 0 0 8s. . = 4 0 0 6s .. ... = 3 0 0 5s. .. ... = 2 8 0 Daily— 6d. . ... = 0 4 0 and rice, or monthly— 6s .. . = 3 0 0 11s. . .. = 5 8 0 9s ... ... = 4 8 0	For adults above 12 years— Rice . ... 1½lb Pounded maize ... . 2 „ Cooked manic ... 2½ „ Raw ditto ... ... 5 „ Dál ... . 8oz. Salt-fish .. . ... 8 „ Ghee or oil .. .. . 4 „ Salt . .. . 4 „ Monthly Weekly.	For whole period of indenture	Ditto .	Ditto	Not provided by the colony
French colonies ..	Adult males of 16 years and upwards. Adult females of 14 years and upwards Males from 11 to 16 years, and females from 11 to 14 years	Ditto .	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Ditto ...	Monthly .. ... 5 0 0 Ditto ... 4 0 0 Ditto . . 3 0 0 Payable weekly, also two suits of clothes each year.	Rice, manic, flour, salt-fish, ghee or oil, salt, &c., in the quantities fixed by Government regulations. Daily.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto ..	After five years' service under indenture.
Surinam ..	Adult males of or above the age of 15 years Adult females and minors Males and females from 10 to 15 years	Ditto ...	Ditto.	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours each working day in the fields or ten hours in the building.	Daily— 24 cents . = 0 8 0 British Guiana currency— 16 cents .. 0 5 4 For each day's actual work, payable weekly.	For adults— Rice ... . 1½lb. Dál . ... 4oz. Cocoanut-oil or ghee .. 1 „ Curry stuff ... ... ½ „ Sugar ... ... 2 „ Salt ... . ½ „ Minors of or above 10 and under the age of 15 years half the scale, and infants one-third of the above scale, with deductions for rations at the rate of 8 cents for adults and 4 cents for minors. Infants receive rations free of cost.	Daily during the first three calendar months from and after first date of delivery upon allotment.	Free of charge .	Free of charge, except when illness is traced to personal misconduct.	Ditto.

Recruitment.

Recruitment of both men and women appears to have been conducted with facility during the early months of the recruiting season; for, as already noticed, it was not till September 1879 that the agencies experienced difficulty in the recruitment of women. It may be observed, however, that apart altogether from the unavoidable delay occasioned by the necessary examination of women in the recruiting districts, there was not latterly in those districts that extreme scarcity of food which had to so marked an extent during the previous season facilitated the recruitment of large numbers.

The number of recruiting licenses granted during 1879-80 was large in comparison with the number granted in 1878-79, but, as may be noticed in the following table, the percentage of licenses cancelled was not by any means so large as that of the previous years:—

Recruiting Agencies.	Licenses.								
	Granted.			Cancelled.					
	1877 78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1877-78.		1878 79.		1879-80.	
				Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Mauritius	33	17	8	4	12 12	4	23 52	.....	0·00
Demerara	133	66	115	5	4 43	3	4·54	3	2 60
Trinidad	92	77	161	6	6 15	16	16 88	2	1 24
Jamaica	35	10	70	... ..	... .	.....	0 00	.....	0 00
Grenada	13	...	.....	.... .	.. .	.....	0·00	.....	0·00
St. Lucia	13	11	3	.....	.....	1	9·09	.....	0·00
St. Vincent	.....	... ..	32	.....	.....	.....	0 00	.....	0·00
Natal	5	27	.....	.....	.....	3	11·11	.....	0·00
Fiji	...	37	.... .	.....	.....	2	5·40	.....	0.00
Surinam .. .	15	9	12	.....	.....	3	33·33	.....	0·00
Guadeloupe	86	32	42	1	1·81	10	31·25	2	4·76
Total ...	375	286	443	16	4·26	42	14 68	7	1·58

This result was due partly to the extensive weeding out during 1878-79 of all doubtful characters, and partly to the more sparing recourse during 1879-80 to the extreme measure of cancellation for comparatively venial offences. In some instances licenses were temporarily withdrawn pending the enquiry into alleged or suspected misconduct, and were subsequently restored, after reproof or warning, when the offences had been ascertained to be of a nature not sufficient to warrant permanent forfeiture of license. For, as was submitted in the communication marginally noted, excepting cases of a serious nature,

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when it is simply out of the question to think of renewing license, there are numerous instances, I believe, in which the cancellation or permanent refusal of a license to one who has hitherto been a fairly well-conducted recruiter ultimately does more harm than good. Their formal exclusion from the work of recruitment does not necessarily ensure their real exclusion from it. If the one certainly ensured the other, the cancellation of licenses would indeed be a most efficient mode of getting rid of many offenders, but unfortunately it is not so. On the other hand, the disadvantages of resorting too freely to the cancellation of licenses are sufficient to make one hesitate before recommending the permanent exclusion of those who have already been connected with recruiting operations, and have hitherto conducted themselves with tolerable regard to the requirements of the law. Such men, when excluded for comparatively minor offences, necessarily carry away with them not only much knowledge of the work and many useful experiences which would deter them from committing errors that the less experienced are likely to commit, but they retain also, in most instances, probably a direct money interest in the work, which therefore they cannot afford to give up. The result is that though ostensibly disconnected, they secretly maintain their connection; and by swelling the ranks of a host of unlicensed recruiters, who skilfully manage to keep out of sight and to evade the law, they ultimately tend to increase the very evil that their exclusion was intended to diminish. Nor, indeed, do the fresh men who take the place of those who are shut out give any promise of doing in the course of time any better than their predecessors, who

belong socially to the same class, and differ in all probability only in having been detected.

Intending emigrants.

It will be noticed from the remarks that were offered in the report for the year 1878-79 under this heading that it was not possible to reconcile the number that were shewn by district officers to have been registered with those admitted by the emigration agents to have been received in their depôts. This defect, however, has now been remedied, and it is gratifying to be able to insert in this report the subjoined statement showing the casualties among intending emigrants to the several colonies between their registration and arrival at the depôts. For the successful preparation of the statement much is due to the kindly assistance of all the agents, who had earnestly set themselves to the task of collecting the desired information :—

Colonies.	Total number undisposed of last year.	Number shewn to have been registerd during the year by the returns received from registering officers.	Deserted.	Discharged as unwilling	Rejected.	Died.	Claimed by relatives.	Total.	Detained.	Total.	Number shewn by the Emigration Agents' returns to have been admitted into depôt.	Number born in depôt.	Total number of souls accommodated in depôt, including the 8 births in depôts.	Remarks.
Demerara	...	5,107	40	4	20	4	3	71	188	259	4,848	3	4,851	
Trinidad	...	3,795	56	10	64	1	15	146	47	193	3,602	..	3,602	
Jamaica	...	1,108	10	2	40	2	2	56	28	84	1,024		1,024	
St Lucia	...	72	...	...	...	...	...	.	3	3	69	...	69	
St Vincent	...	317	1	...	3	...	...	4	25	29	286	...	286	
Mauritius	134	523	1	...	2	...	...	3	...	3	520	..	654	This number includes 134, balance of last year.
Surinam	...	345	..		..	...	...	...	...	..	345	1	346	
Guadeloupe	..	1,956	31	6	20		...	57		57	1,899	4	1,903	
Total ...	134	13,223	139	22	149	7	20	337	291	628	12,595	8	12,737	

The total number registered during the year amounted to 13,223 souls, and the arrivals at the depôts numbered 12,595, the balance being accounted for by 337 casualties, amounting to 2·54 per cent., and 291 undespatched coolies remaining in hand in the district depôts, amounting to 2·20 per cent. of the total registrations effected in the year. The casualties already noticed are made up chiefly of rejections and desertions, to the number of 149 and 139 souls respectively. The rejections, amounting 1·12 per cent. of registrations, may be readily accounted for by the fact of emigrants being subjected in some instances to medical examinations after registration, and to consequent weeding of those physically unfit for labour. Were it not that the agents as a rule appoint their own medical officers in the recruiting districts, the percentage of rejections would necessarily have been heavy. It is of course to the interest of the agencies to save the expense of registration if possible in the case of every unfit labourer, and I have reason to believe that efforts are not wanting to secure medical examiners wherever available. As regards desertions, amounting to 1·05 per cent. of registrations, it is difficult to arrive at all the reasons that actuate intending emigrants to desert after they have declared before registering officers their willingness to emigrate to the colonies to which engaged. They are doubtless many. I cannot but consider the subsequent change of mind on the part of emigrants to be due in some measure to the intentional misconduct of recruiters in keeping them in the dark at the time of recruitment and registration in respect of the details of engagement. Under the belief that honesty is not always the best policy, recruiters, as might be expected, suppress the truth in some instances and highly colour it in others, and therefore it is only after entering the depôts, and while awaiting despatch to Calcutta, that intending emigrants begin to realize their position and the deception practised upon them. There are, moreover, emigrants who are led to engage under the influence of home quarrels, and these necessarily change their views subsequently, on reflection as to the consequences of their hasty action, and desert in order to avoid them. The 22 emigrants shewn to have been discharged as unwilling might also be reckoned among the latter class, with this difference that these openly declared their change of mind and secured their discharge instead of adopting the alternative of deserting without the consent of those in charge of the depôt. The emigrants, numbering 20, shewn to have been claimed by relatives leaves a very small proportion—0·15 per cent.—to the number registered, and doubtless includes

members of families who engaged to emigrate only with a view to spite their friends with whom they had quarrelled.

The absence of a similar statement for the preceding year renders it impossible to make any comparison as to whether there has been any improvement in regard to casualties. I may, however, venture to observe that the agents will not cease to use their influence over recruiting operations in order to obtain better results at the close of the year 1880-81. The above remarks of course apply to the casualties that occur prior to the arrival of emigrants at the Calcutta depôts, where additional influences begin to operate and induce change of mind.

Depôts.

The depôts of the several agencies received during the year an aggregate of 12,603 coolies, as against 18,485 of the previous year. Information as to the number accommodated in the depôts, the casualties that occurred, the number despatched to the several colonies, and the number that remained in depôt at the close of the year 1879-80, is given in the following table:—

Colonies.	Total number arrived at Calcutta, including eight births in depôt.	Total number undisposed of last year.	Total number in depôt during the year.	CASUALTIES.																		Despatched to colonies.		Transferred to other agencies by re-registration.	Balance remaining at the end of the year.	How disposed of.
				Rejections.						Releases.						Desertions.		Deaths.		Total casualties.						
				As unfit to labour.		Accompanying those rejected as unfit.		Total.		Unwilling to proceed as emigrants.		Claimed by relatives.		Total.												
				Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.			
Mauritius ...	520	134	654	13	1·98	4	0·62	17	2·59	1	0·15	1	0·15	2	0·30	46	7·33	2	0·30	69	10·55	539	83·94	...		46	In depôt.
Demerara ...	4,851	...	4,851	153	3·15	30	0·61	183	3·77	52	1·07	4	0·08	56	1·15	111	2·28	2	0·04	352	7·25	4,496	92·47	...		3	
Trinidad ...	3,602	...	3,602	187	5·19	14	0·38	201	5·58	16	0·44	9	0·24	25	0·69	96	2·66	13	0·36	335	9·30	3,161	87·75	63		43	
Jamaica ...	1,024	...	1,024	112	10·93	20	1·95	132	12·89	11	1·07	1	0·09	12	1·17	27	2·63	10	0·97	181	17·67	756	73·82	51		36	Discharged.
St. Lucia ...	69	...	69	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	66	95·65	3	...		
St. Vincent ...	288	...	288	16	5·55	2	0·69	18	6·25	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	10	3·47	1	0·34	29	10·06	213	73·95	25	21		
Surinam ...	346	...	346	15	4·33	...	0·00	15	4·33	3	0·86	2	0·57	5	1·44	3	0·86	3	0·86	26	7·51	320	92·48	...	...		
Guadeloupe	1,903	...	1,903	85	4·46	10	0·52	95	4·99	28	1·47	5	0·26	33	1·73	36	1·89	7	0·36	171	8·98	1,685	88·54	4	43		
Total ...	12,603	134	12,737	581	4·56	80	0·62	661	5·18	111	0·87	22	0·17	133	1·04	331	2·59	38	0·29	1,163	9·13	11,236	88·21	146	192		

It will be seen that 5,832 less came into depôt than during the previous year. This is accounted for by the fact that although the depôt for St. Vincent re-opened and received 288, and those for Trinidad and Jamaica received respectively 509 and 792 more than in the previous year, the depôts for Natal and Fiji were closed, while those for

Mauritius,	received respectively less than in the previous year by	796
Demerara,		2,412
St. Lucia,		194
Surinam, and		699
Guadeloupe,		612

Including 134 that remained over in the Mauritius depôt from the preceding year, the total number accommodated in depôt during the year under review was 12,737. Of these 11,236 were ultimately despatched to the colonies, leaving a balance of 1,501 to be accounted for in the following manner:—

By rejections	661
,, releases	133
,, desertions	331
,, deaths	38
,, transfers	146
Balance in depôt at the close of the year	192
Total ...	1,501

Rejections.

It is satisfactory to notice that the percentage of rejections for all causes of unfitness was 5·18, against 8·65 during the previous year. This reduction is probably due partly to the system of medical examination of recruits prior to their despatch

from the recruiting districts having been more generally adopted by the agencies, and partly to the fact that batches of coolies that come from the recruiting districts during seasons of scarcity and privation, such as that of 1878-79, are more likely to include in their number a larger proportion of those whom it is ultimately found necessary to reject.

Releases.

The releases exceeded in number those of the previous year, having been 1·04 per cent., against 0·56 in 1878-79. I was particularly careful to ascertain as far as possible the motives that led coolies to desire their release from the engagement into which they had entered; and it was satisfactory to find that with the exception of a comparatively few cases that were traced to faults in their recruitment, and which were therefore referred to the registering officers for investigation and punishment of offending recruiters, the majority of those who declined to emigrate assured me that they had simply changed their minds—in some instances because their relatives had prevailed upon them not to go, in others because caste prejudices, ostensibly put forward, together probably with a secret belief that they would get employment in Calcutta, were sufficient to overcome the slight desire they at first entertained of going abroad.

Desertions.

The number that deserted was somewhat less than that of the previous year, the percentage being 2·59, against 2·93 in 1878-79. From those who subsequently returned, it was in a few cases ascertained that in some instances they had been influenced by discontented or designing companions, and in others by the temptation to seek for employment in Calcutta.

Sickness and mortality.

The depôts on the whole were fairly healthy during the year, and there was no epidemic. The chief causes of mortality, as may be seen in the annexed statement, were fever, cholera, and chest affections:—

Colonies.	Diarrhœa.	Dysentery.	Cholera.	Fever.	Chicken-pox.	Small-pox.	Chest affection.	Measles.	Other diseases.	Total.
Mauritius	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Demerara	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2
Trinidad	2	.....	1	5	.....	.....	2	.....	3	13
Jamaica	.....	2	6	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	10
St Lucia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Vincent	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Surinam	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Guadeloupe	.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....	1	.....	2	7
Total ...	2	4	9	11	.....	.....	7	.....	5	38

The death-rate, 0·29 per cent., bears favourable comparison with that of 1878-79, which amounted to 0·51 per cent. The largest percentage of mortality occurred in the Jamaica depôt, in consequence of an outbreak of cholera, but fortunately it neither lasted long nor spread to others, and the precautionary measures adopted promptly on the first appearance of the disease seemed to prove successful in averting its progress.

Particulars relating to the mortality amongst men, women, children, and infants in the several depôts are given in the subjoined statement:—

Depots.	Male	Female.	Children.		Infants.		Total.	Mortality.							
			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.		Male.	Female.	Children		Infants.		Total.	Percentage.
										Boys.	Girls	Boys.	Girls.		
Mauritius	289	134	54	28	4	11	520	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	0·38
Demerara	3,045	1,230	202	183	62	69	4,851	1	1	.....	.....	... ..	.....	2	0·04
Trinidad	2,245	863	232	153	68	41	3,602	6	2	.....	1	2	2	13	0 36
Jamaica	646	251	64	25	19	17	1,024	5	2	1	1	.....	1	10	0·97
St. Lucia	42	18	3	4	2	.....	69	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·00
St Vincent	187	70	13	12	3	3	288	1	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	0 34
Surinam	228	84	14	8	6	6	346	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	0·86
Guadeloupe	1,154	473	105	71	52	48	1,903	3	2	.. ...	. .	1	1	7	0·36
Total ...	7,836	3,125	717	484	216	195	12,603	20	8	1	2	3	4	38	0·29

From the above figures it may be gathered that the percentage of deaths, as calculated on the total strength of each group received into depôt during

the year 1879-80, bears favorable comparison with the results of the previous year only in respect of the women :—

Percentage of Deaths.

	In 1878-79.	In 1879-80.	Remarks.
Amongst the men	0·22	0·25	The infantile mortality was unfortunately increased by the admission into the Trinidad depôt of a number proportionately larger than that of 1878-79 of sickly children.
Ditto women	0·33	0·25	
Ditto children	0·20	0·24	
Ditto infants	0·31	1·70	

Transfers to other depôts.

As in the previous year, but not to the same extent, those who, on release from engagement to the colonies for which they had been registered, elected to re-engage for other colonies instead of being returned to their homes at the expense of the colonies concerned, were allowed to have themselves re-registered for, and transferred to, other colonial depôts. Of the 192 coolies who remained undisposed of at the close of the year, 46 continued in the Mauritius depôt awaiting despatch by the next vessel, as the operations of that colony continue throughout the year ; but 146 that remained in the other depôts were released from their engagements. Their position was fully explained to them, and all those who desired it were returned to their homes at the expense of the agencies concerned, while others preferred to continue in Calcutta for employment, and in some instances for re-engagement on the re-opening of recruiting operations for the next season.

Detention in depôt.

As shewn in the following table, the average period of detention in depôt, except in the case of the Guadeloupe depôt under unavoidable circumstances, did not exceed one month :—

Depôts.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Remarks.
Mauritius	114	5	8	A man was detained pending enquiry about his brother, a minor.
Demerara	125	1	19	Owing to diarrhœa.
Trinidad	136	4	18	
Jamaica	110	4	26	
St. Lucia	4	4	4	
St. Vincent	19	4	10	
Surinam...	62	2	17·83	
Guadeloupe	129	1	33	There were some cases of measles in September that were kept back till the departure of the second shipment in December.

SECTION III.

EMBARKATION.

The number embarked for each colony, and the districts from which they were drawn in the order of their importance as sources of supply, are given in the following statement :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Number of souls embarked for the Colonies.								Total.
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	St. Lucia.	St. Vincent.	Surinam.	Guadeloupe.	
North-Western ...	Allahabad, Azimghur, Mirzapore, Benares, Ghazipore, Goruckpore, Meerut, Cawnpore, Bareilly, Agra, Jhansi, and Jounpore.	221	2,712	1,576	560	30	114	177	844	6,234
Behar	Patna, Gya, Arrah, Sarun, Tirhoot, Chumparun, Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Purneah.	245	583	572	95	.....	23	90	702	2,310
Oudh	Lucknow, Sitapore, Sultanpore, Fyzabad, and Roy Bareilly.	24	634	820	70	27	71	14	80	1,740

Provinces.	Districts.	Number of souls embarked for the Colonies.								Total.
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	St. Lucia.	St. Vincent.	Surinam.	Guadeloupe.	
Central India ...	Indore, Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Raipore, Rewah, and Gwalior.	2	231	68	10	.....	1	10	17	339
Bengal	Calcutta, 24-Pergunnahs, Howrah, Nuddea, Burdwan, Moorshedabad, Jessore, Pubna, Rungpore, Cooch Behar, Chota Nagpore, Bankoora, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Dacca, Mymensing, Backergunge, and Furreedpore.	24	171	75	13	.....	.....	16	4	303
Punjab and dependencies.	Delhi, Umballa, Jullunder, Umritsur, Lahore, Peshawar, Ferozepore, and Guzerat.	.....	80	26	3	7	2	8	4	130
Miscellaneous—Madras and Bombay, &c.	Unknown	22	59	17	4	2	.....	3	15	122
Nepaul—Native States.	Unknown	.....	3	3	1	.....	2	1	19	29
Orissa	Cuttack, Balasore, and Pooree	1	14	4	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	20

The North-Western Provinces continued, as in previous years, the favourite field of recruitment for the colonies, and, as was the case last year, supplied more than half the total number of emigrants embarked.

From the following statement of the number of emigrants who, having returned from the several colonies named in it, re-emigrated to those or to other colonies, it may be gathered that, in comparison with the past four years, the number of emigrants who re-emigrated has been steadily increasing; thus—

Year.	Total number who re-emigrated.
1875-76	172
1876-77	254
1877-78	306
1878-79	472
1879-80	628

The following statement gives details of the number of returned emigrants who re-emigrated to the several colonies during the year under review:—

Colonies from which they had returned.	Total number of return emigrants who re-emigrated.	Colonies to which they proceeded. 1879-80.							
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	St. Lucia.	St. Vincent.	Surinam.	French colonies.
Demerara	205	3	164	25	.....	.....	.....	6	7
Trinidad	92	2	10	75	1	.....	.....	3	1
Jamaica	89	4	61	18	2	.....	.....	.....	4
St. Lucia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Vincent	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mauritius	118	53	28	17	1	.....	.....	4	15
Natal	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Surinam	96	.....	7	55	3	.....	.....	30	1
French colonies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Réunion	26	1	13	4	.....	.....	.....	1	7
Total ...	628	64	283	195	7	.....	.....	44	35

Proportion of women.

The rule prescribing the despatch of the minimum number of 40 women to every 100 men was fairly complied with, and, as may be seen from the following table, there was no serious deficiency at the close of the season:—

Colonies.	Male.	Female.	Proportion.	Deficiency at the close of the previous year.	Deficiency made up during the year.	Deficiency remaining at the close of the year.	Remarks.
Demerara	2,826	1,128	39·91	None	None	2 women	
Trinidad	1,922	793	41·25	None	None	None	
Jamaica	459	195	42·48	None	None	None	
St. Lucia	40	17	42·50	None	None	None	
St. Vincent	124	60	48·39	None	None	None	
Mauritius	288	147	51·04	None	None	None	
Surinam	205	81	39·61	None	None	1 woman	
Guadeloupe	1,026	417	40 64	None	None	None	

Emigrant vessels.

Twenty-three sailing vessels conveyed the 11,236 emigrants that left this port for the several colonies during the year.

Colonies.	1878-79. Number of Vessels.			1879-80. Number of Vessels.			Number of emigrants.	Average number of emigrants to each ship.
	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.	Sailing ships.	Steam ships.	Total.		
Demerara	13	.....	13	9	.....	9	4,496	499
Trinidad	5	.....	5	6	.....	6	3,161	526
Jamaica	1	.....	1	2	.....	2	756	378
Mauritius	3	.....	*3	2	.....	2	539	269
Natal	4	.....	4	..... *	.....	..... *	.....	.....
St. Lucia	1	.....	1		.....		66	66
St. Vincent	.....	.....	.....	..... †	.....	..... †	213	213
Surinam	.....	1	1	1	.....	1	320	320
Guadeloupe	4	.....	4	3	.....	3	1,685	561
Fiji	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	32	1	33	23	.....	23	11,236	449

* These emigrants embarked in a Trinidad ship.
† Ditto ditto Jamaica ship.

As shewn above, the average number of emigrants to each vessel was 449, while that of 1878-79 was nearly the same, or 444. No steamers were employed during 1879-80.

Information regarding the chief results of the voyage of each ship excepting four is furnished in the subjoined statement:—

Number.	Names of vessels.	Colonies to which emigrants were conveyed.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure.	Date of arrival at destination.	Length of voyage in days.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.	Remarks.
1	Ophir	Mauritius	Prosono C. Dey ...	24th Apl. 1879	17th June 1879	53	247	...	0·00	No cholera.
2	Canada	Ditto	J. C. Shircore ...	25th July ,,	31st Aug. ,,	36	292	3	1·02	
3	Sheila	Trinidad	W. Arther ...	30th ,, ,,	7th Nov. ,,	101	522	4	0·76	
4	Plassey	Demerara	C. Chapman ..	31st ,, ,,	10th ,, ,,	105	615	9	1·46	
5	Lassa	Ditto	R. Rivers ...	16th Aug. ,,	11th ,, ,,	88	496	5	1·00	
6	Brenda	Trinidad	T. D. Atkins ...	23rd ,, ,,	21st ,, ,,	91	539	2	0·37	
7	North	Demerara	J. B. Menzies ...	14th Sept. ,,	12th Dec. ,,	90	511	1	0·19	
8	Jura	Trinidad	J. Laing ...	28th ,, ,,	22nd ,, ,,	88	536	9	1·67	
9	Neva	Guadeloupe ...	C. Banlain ...	28th ,, ,,	Report not received yet.	...	481	...	.....	
10	Ellora	Demerara	F. E. West ...	11th Oct. ,,	5th Jan. 1880	88	474	6	1·26	No cholera.
11	Bann	Trinidad	F. Shaw ...	8th Nov. ,,	29th ,, ,,	82	613	16	2 61	
12	Ailsa	Surinam	A. J. Meyer ...	10th ,, ,,	21st Feb. ,,	104	320	8	2·50	
13	Berar	Demerara	G. Stewart ...	11th ,, ,,	14th ,, ,,	96	413	6	1·45	
14	Jumna	Trinidad	P. Hughes ...	4th Dec. ,,	29th ,, ,,	86	436	3	0·68	
15	New Castle ...	Demerara	J. G. Winstone ...	7th ,, ,,	2nd Mar. ,,	86	499	8	1·60	
16	Artist	Guadeloupe ...	A. Granzer ...	9th ,, ,,	Report not yet received.	...	534	...	.....	
17	Poonah	Demerara	J. M. Barry ...	9th Jan. 1880	2nd April 1880	91	406	3	0·64	No cholera.
18	Foyle	Trinidad ... ... / St. Lucia	W. Holman ...	13th ,, ,,	1st ,, ,, / 14th ,, ,,	83 / 93	515 / 66	5 / 0	0·97 / 0·00	
19	Chetah	Jamaica	J. Welsh ...	20th ,, ,,	19th ,, ,,	91	386	4	1·03	
20	Malabar	Demerara	C. P. Morton ...	28th ,, ,,	9th May ,,	102	530	12	2 26	
21	Lightning	Jamaica ... ... / St. Vincent ...	J. S. Ireland ...	6th Feb. ,,	4th June ,, / 22nd May ,,	119 / 107	370 / 213	7 / 2	1·89 / 0·93	
22	Howrah	Demerara ...	J. S. Hughes ...	22nd ,, ,,	Reports not yet received.	...	492	...	.....	
23	Jorawar	Guadeloupe ...	E. Beaufit ...	29th ,, ,,		...	670	...	.....	

Of the 23 vessels that left this port—

6	proceeded	to	Trinidad.
9	ditto	to	Demerara.
2	ditto	to	Jamaica.
2	ditto	to	Mauritius.
3	ditto	to	Guadeloupe.
1	ditto	to	Surinam.

One of the Trinidad ships conveyed emigrants also to St Lucia, and one of the Jamaica ships conveyed emigrants to St. Vincent.

The reports on the voyage of the *Neva*, *Artist*, *Howrah*, and *Jorawar* have not yet been received, but the results of the voyages in regard to all the other vessels have been very satisfactory; the highest deathrate, that of the *Bann*, being 2·61 per cent., against 4·46 of the previous year. The absence of cholera during the voyage is worthy of notice.

SECTION IV.

DISEMBARKATION.

Return emigrants.

The following statement furnishes information as to the number of emigrants who returned from the colonies, the amount of their savings, and the mortality on the passage:—

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average percentage of mortality.		Savings. Aggregate amount.	Savings. Average amount.
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	6	1,602	14	0·87	2,76,538 0 0	172 9 11
Demerara	2	1,116	12	1·07	2,47,691 7 2	221 8 9
Trinidad	1	473	4	0·84	1,23,557 9 0	261 3 6
Jamaica	1	407	11	2·70	47,811 0 0	117 7 6
Surinam	2	798	21	2·63	64,196 3 8	80 7 1
Total ...	12	4,396	62	1·40	7,59,794 3 10	172 12 1

The total number of emigrants who returned during the year exceeded by 1,134 the number that returned during 1878-79 and by 1,854 the number that returned in 1877-78. The aggregate amount of savings, as above stated, was Rs. 7,59,794-3-10, the average amount for each individual being Rs. 172-12-1.

As special reports regarding each of the vessels that brought the return emigrants to this port have already been submitted, it appears unnecessary here to do more than to submit the following details regarding them:—

Number.	Names of vessels.	Colonies from which emigrants returned.	Name of Surgeon.	Date of departure from colonies.	Date of arrival at Calcutta.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.
1	Sheila ...	Trinidad ...	E. R. Whitelam ...	12th Dec. 1878 ...	22nd April 1879 ...	132	473	4	0·84
2	Philosopher ...	Surinam ...	B. S. White ...	19th ,, ,, ...	15th June ,, ...	179	468	15	3·20
3	Canada ...	Mauritius ...	L. J. Petricher ...	5th April 1879 ...	7th May ,, ...	33	426	6	1·40
4	Chetah ...	Jamaica ...	A. E. Prockter ...	17th June ,, ...	5th Nov. ,, ...	142	407	11	2·70
5	Albuera ...	Mauritius ...	A. Noel ...	23rd ,, ,, ...	3rd Aug. ,, ...	42	139	3	2·15
6	Neva ...	Ditto ...	L. M. Gregoire ...	26th July ,, ...	30th ,, ,, ...	89	307	3	0·97
7	Lightning ...	Demerara ...	E. A. Hardwicke	3rd Sept. ,, ...	9th Jan. 1880 ...	129	563	8	1·42
8	Malabar ...	Ditto ...	E. R. Whitelam ...	5th ,, ,, ...	30th Dec 1879 ...	117	555	4	0·72
9	Mofussilite ...	Mauritius ...	S. Morton ...	26th ,, ,, ...	3rd Nov. ,, ...	39	340	...	0 00
10	Canada ...	Ditto ...	A. Noel ...	26th Oct ,, ...	10th Dec. ,, ...	46	234	1	0·42
11	St Kilda ...	Surinam ...	J. L. DeWolfe ...	29th ,, ,, ...	23rd March 1880 ...	147	330	6	1·91
12	Glenroy ...	Mauritius ...	P. A. Savriacauty	31st Dec. ,, ...	9th Feb. ,, ...	41	156	1	0·64

In view of the fact that all vessels bringing return emigrants have on board a number of invalids amongst them, the mortality on the passage was in no instance excessive; nor was there any epidemic disease on board any of the vessels that arrived here with return emigrants during the year. In addition, however, to the number that returned from the colonies above named in vessels specially chartered for their conveyance, there arrived here by the French mail steamer, in six separate batches, 189 coolies from Réunion. The aggregate amount of

their savings was Rs. 10,223, or an average of Rs. 54-1-5 to each individual. The arrival of each batch was separately reported to Government during the year, and arrangements were made on each occasion to forward to their homes those among them who had returned as paupers.

SECTION V.

DEPARTMENTAL.

Protector of Emigrants.

Dr. V. Richards continued to officiate as Protector of Emigrants up to the 10th of April 1879, when he was relieved by me on my return from furlough.

Medical Inspector.

2. Dr. R. Harvey held the appointment of Medical Inspector of Emigrants throughout the year.

Emigration Office.

3. The office continued at No. 9, Short Street, and, as may be seen from the following statement, its correspondence was less than that of the previous year :—

	1878-79.	1879-80.
Number of letters received	4,215	3,038
Ditto despatched ...	2,473	1,981
Total ...	6,688	5,019

Mr. E. R. Forbes, personal assistant, whose zealous and painstaking manner of conducting his duties has before been noticed, was compelled in consequence of ill health to avail himself on the 10th January 1880 of three months' privilege leave. During that period Mr. C. Edwards acted for him, and strove assiduously to carry on the duties creditably till Mr. Forbes' return to office on the 10th April 1880.

Establishment unchanged.

4. The nominal roll of the office establishment underwent no change, and it is satisfactory to be able to add that its members were regular in their attendance.

ANNUAL RETURNS.

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian emigrants who have left Calcutta for Mauritius and Réunion during the year 1879-80, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

Names of Colonies.	Embarked.								Returned.							
	Men.	Women.	Children. Boys.	Children. Girls.	Infants. Boys.	Infants. Girls.	Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.	Men.	Women.	Children. Boys.	Children. Girls.	Infants. Boys.	Infants. Girls.	Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.
Mauritius	288	147	55	34	6	9	539	479½	1,147	240	101	77	16	12	1,602	1,494½
Réunion	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	.....	135	39	9	5	...	1	189	181
Total ...	288	147	55	34	6	9	539	479½	1,282	288	110	82	16	13	1,791	1,675½

Table exhibiting the number and description of East Indian emigrants who have left Calcutta for the West Indies during the year 1879-80, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

Names of Colonies.	Embarked.								Returned.							
	Men.	Women	Children. Boys.	Children. Girls	Infants. Boys.	Infants. Girls.	Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.	Men.	Women.	Children. Boys.	Children. Girls.	Infants. Boys.	Infants. Girls.	Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.
Demerara	2,826	1,128	242	172	62	66	4,496	4,161	649	275	88	79	13	14	1,118	1,007½
Trinidad	1,922	793	207	141	61	37	3,161	2,889	280	96	48	36	5	6	473	420
Jamaica	459	195	49	21	18	14	756	689	191	117	44	40	7	8	407	350
St. Lucia	40	17	3	4	2	...	66	60½	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
St. Vincent	124	60	12	12	3	2	213	196	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
Surinam	205	81	14	8	6	6	320	297	499	190	43	37	17	12	798	729
Guadeloupe	1,026	417	98	62	46	38	1,685	1,522	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
Total ...	6,602	2,691	623	420	198	163	10,697	9,814½	1,619	680	223	192	42	40	2,796	2,506½

Annual Return of Emigrants despatched to Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Mauritius, Surinam, and the French West India Colonies during the year 1879-80.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Jamaica.			St. Lucia.			St. Vincent.			Mauritius.			Surinam.			Guadeloupe.			Total.		Grand Total.	Remarks.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.		
Under 2 years	62	66	128	61	37	98	18	14	32	2	...	2	3	2	5	6	9	15	6	6	12	46	38	84	204	172	376	
From 2 to 10 years	242	172	414	207	141	348	49	21	70	3	4	7	12	12	24	55	34	89	14	8	22	96	62	158	678	454	1,132	
„ 10 to 20 „	700	276	976	507	199	706	126	63	189	7	4	11	43	24	67	50	33	83	46	25	71	238	96	334	1,717	720	2,437	
„ 20 to 30 „	1,976	796	2,772	1,331	554	1,885	314	128	442	28	12	40	73	35	108	139	65	204	143	50	193	708	304	1,012	4,712	1,944	6,656	
„ 30 to 40 „	138	50	188	79	39	118	18	4	22	4	1	5	8	1	9	93	41	134	16	5	21	78	16	94	434	157	591	
„ 40 to 50 „	11	6	17	5	1	6	1	..	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	6	8	14	...	1	1	...	...	...	24	16	40	
Above 50 years	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	3	1	4	
Total ...	3,130	1,366	4,496	2,190	971	3,161	526	230	756	45	21	66	139	74	213	349	190	539	225	95	320	1,168	517	1,685	7,772	3,464	11,236	

No. 2.—As to places whence Emigrants came to Calcutta for Embarkation.

Orissa	14	...	14	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	18	2	20	
Western Bengal	55	41	96	29	20	49	3	5	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	5	12	5	2	7	...	1	1	99	74	173	
Central Bengal	34	22	56	14	5	19	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6	3	3	6	1	...	1	55	35	90	
East Bengal	14	5	19	7	...	7	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6	3	...	3	2	...	2	32	8	40	
Behar	401	182	583	394	178	572	67	28	95	...	...	...	14	9	23	163	82	245	63	27	90	489	213	702	1,591	719	2,310	
North-Western Provinces	1,890	822	2,712	1,102	474	1,576	394	166	560	16	14	30	76	38	114	143	78	221	122	55	177	568	276	844	4,311	1,923	6,234	
Oudh	436	198	634	559	261	820	46	24	70	21	6	27	44	27	71	14	10	24	9	5	14	65	15	80	1,194	546	1,740	
Central India	162	69	231	47	21	68	8	2	10	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	2	7	3	10	13	4	17	240	99	339	
Punjab	75	14	89	20	6	26	3	...	3	7	...	7	2	...	2	...	...	...	8	...	8	3	1	4	118	21	139	
Nepaul	2	1	3	3	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	..	...	...	1	...	1	16	3	19	25	4	29	
Miscellaneous—Madras, Bombay, &c. ...	47	12	59	13	4	17	2	2	4	1	1	2	...	...	...	12	10	22	3	...	3	11	4	15	89	33	123	
Total ...	3,130	1,366	4,496	2,190	971	3,161	526	230	756	45	21	66	139	74	213	349	190	539	225	95	320	1,168	517	1,685	7,772	3,464	11,236	

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

Brahmins, high caste ... }	547	194	741	348	137	485	64	16	80	12	3	15	26	8	34	53	26	79	37	9	46	138	63	201	1,225	456	1,681	
Agriculturists ... } Hindoos.	826	296	1,122	660	279	939	132	51	183	16	6	22	45	19	64	122	49	171	75	20	95	438	186	624	2,314	906	3,220	
Artizans ... }	171	60	231	114	40	154	27	10	37	...	...	.	7	3	10	21	16	37	14	6	20	59	16	75	413	151	564	
Low caste ... }	957	467	1,424	645	276	921	168	88	256	12	9	21	36	19	55	90	58	148	57	33	90	355	155	510	2,320	1,105	3,425	
Mussulmans	618	346	964	422	236	658	135	65	200	5	3	8	25	25	50	63	41	104	42	27	69	177	97	274	1,487	840	2,327	
Christians	11	3	14	1	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	13	6	19	
Grand Total ...	3,130	1,366	4,496	2,190	971	3,161	526	230	756	45	21	66	139	74	213	349	190	539	225	95	320	1,168	517	1,685	7,772	3,464	11,236	

Memorandum.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos	6,272	2,618	8,890
2. Mussulmans	1,487	840	2,327
3. Christians	13	6	19
Total ...	7,772	3,464	11,236

Calcutta,
The 18*th September* 1880.

J. G. G. GRANT,
Protector of Emigrants.

W. H. D'C.—Reg. No. 6744J—190—28-9-80.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

COLONIAL EMIGRATION.

CALCUTTA, THE 12TH NOVEMBER 1880.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The Report of the Protector of Emigrants for 1879-80.

The report is submitted by Dr. J. G. G. Grant, who was Protector throughout the year.

2. In the opening section of the report the Protector notices the more important administrative questions in connection with the working of colonial emigration which came under consideration during the year. Various amendments of the rules and scales were proposed and received the general approval of the Government of India, but their publication was postponed pending the amendment of the Act (VII of 1871), which has also been decided upon. Dr. Grant refers at some length to complaints made by the Emigration Agents of difficulties thrown in the way of the recruitment of women, especially in the districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The enquiries instituted showed that, although in some few cases the registering officers had placed an unduly stringent construction on the orders of Government regarding the careful scrutiny of the cases of women brought up for registration in districts other than their own, in most instances any delays or difficulties arising were entirely due to the irregular or illegal action of the recruiters concerned. If the Emigration Agents keep a strict surveillance over their recruiters and subordinate agents, and employ only thoroughly respectable men in both capacities, no real obstacles will be found to lie in their way, beyond the natural difficulty of inducing people to come forward as emigrants when they are fairly comfortable at home.

3. There were nine agencies at work during the year, viz. those for Mauritius, Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, St Lucia, St. Vincent (all British), Surinam (Dutch), and Guadeloupe (French). Those for Natal and Fiji were closed; but that for St. Vincent re-opened after having been closed since 1874-75. The Protector acknowledges the ready manner in which all the agents co-operated with him, and specially mentions the constant efforts of Mr. Mitchel (the Agent for Trinidad and three other colonies) to prevent irregularities and carry out suggestions.

4. The following table shows the demand of the colonies for emigrants during the last two years, and the maner in which it was met :—

COLONIES.	1878-79.			1879-80.		
	Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	NUMBER DESPATCHED, REPRESENTED AS		Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	NUMBER DESPATCHED, REPRESENTED AS	
		Statute adults.	Souls.		Statute adults.	Souls.
Demerara	6,000	5,043½	6,520	4,000	4,161	4,496
Trinidad	2,400	2,395½	2,632	2,912	2,889	3,161
Jamaica	150	153	165	689	689	756
St. Lucia	200	202½	221	60	60½	66
St. Vincent	...	.....	..	200	196	213
Mauritius	Males 445	*1,008½	1,220	Males 225	*479½	539
Natal	„ 1,000	1,517½	1,734	.....	.....	.....
Fiji	400	450	498	...	.....	.....
Surinam	600	623	709	800	297	320
Guadeloupe	1,900	1,931½	2,166	1,450	1,523	1,685
Total ...	13,095	14,224	15,865	9,836	10,294	11,236

No material change took place in the terms offered by the several colonies to intending emigrants.

* This number includes the women despatched Requisitions from Mauritius specify the number of men only, and leave the number of women to be adjusted by the rule regulating the proportion of women.

5. The number of recruiters licensed was 443 against 286 in the preceding year. The percentage of licenses cancelled for misconduct was, however, only 1·58 against 14·68 in 1878-79—a result due partly to the severe weeding out of doubtful characters by Dr. Richards during his acting incumbency as Protector, partly to the fact that Dr. Grant rightly now reserves cancellation of license as the punishment for extreme cases of misconduct, and partly, no doubt, to greater care in the selection of recruiters by the agents.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to find that for the first time it is possible to trace the history of the disposal of all the emigrants registered in the recruiting districts. The acknowledgments of Government are due to the agents for the trouble they have taken to give effect to its wishes in this matter. The following table shows the facts:—

Colonies.	Total number undisposed of last year.	Number shown to have been registered during the year by the returns received from registering officers.	Deserted.	Discharged as unwilling.	Rejected.	Died.	Claimed by relatives.	Total.	Detained.	Total.	Number shown by the Emigration Agents' returns to have been admitted into depôt.	Number born in depôt.	Total number of souls accommodated in depôt, including the 8 births in depôts.	Remarks.
Demerara	...	5,107	40	4	20	4	3	71	188	259	4,848	3	4,851	
Trinidad	...	3,795	56	10	64	1	15	146	47	193	3,602	...	3,602	
Jamaica	...	1,108	10	2	40	2	2	56	28	84	1,024	...	1,024	
St. Lucia	...	72	...	...	...	...	.	..	3	3	69	...	69	
St. Vincent	...	317	1	...	5	...	...	4	25	29	288	...	288	
Mauritius	134	523	1	...	2	...	...	3	...	3	520	...	654	This number includes 134, balance of last year.
Surinam	...	345	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	345	1	346	
Guadeloupe		1,956	31	6	20	...	...	57	...	57	1,899	4	1,903	
Total ...	134	13,223	139	22	149	7	20	337	291	628	12,595	8	12,737	

The rejections, amounting to 1·12 per cent of the registrations, were attributed to the fact that the medical examination in many cases followed registration. It is on every account desirable that the physical fitness of the emigrants should be ascertained before they leave their district, and that the agents should endeavour to secure medical examination immediately before or after registration, whenever they can. The desertions were 1·05 per cent of registration. A considerable number of desertions may always be expected in the case of intending emigrants to the colonies. It is desirable for both parties that the emigrants should discover their objections to going abroad before they come down to Calcutta, and it is not to be wondered at that ignorant natives should on changing their minds often prefer to desert instead of applying formally for their discharge.

7. The depôt registers of the different agencies supply the following statistics:—

Colonies.	Total number arrived at Calcutta, including eight births in depôt.	Total number undisposed of last year.	Total number in depôt during the year.	CASUALTIES.																Despatched to colonies.		Transferred to other agencies by re-registration.	Balance remaining at the end of the year.	How disposed of.
				Rejections.						Releases.						Desertions.		Deaths		Total casualties.					
				As unfit to labour.		Accompanying those rejected as unfit.		Total.		Unwilling to proceed as emigrants.		Claimed by relatives.		Total.											
				Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.			
Mauritius ...	520	134	654	13	1·98	4	0·62	17	2·59	1	0·15	1	0·15	2	0·30	48	7·33	2	0·30	69	10·55	539	83·94	...	46	In depôt.
Demerara ...	4,851	...	4,851	153	3·15	30	0·61	183	3·77	52	1·07	4	0·08	56	1·15	111	2·28	2	0·04	352	7·25	4,496	92·47	...	3	
Trinidad ...	3,602	...	3,602	187	5·19	14	0·38	201	5·58	36	0·44	9	0·24	25	0·69	90	2·66	13	0·36	335	9·30	3,161	87·75	63	43	
Jamaica ..	1,024	...	1,024	112	10·93	20	1·95	132	12·89	11	1·07	1	0·09	12	1·17	27	2·63	10	0·97	181	17·67	756	73·82	51	36	Discharged.
St. Lucia ...	69	...	69	...	0·00	...	0·00	..	0·00	..	0·00	..	0·00	..	0·00	.	0·00	..	0·00	...	0·00	66	95·65	3	...	
St Vincent...	288	...	288	16	5·55	2	0·69	18	6·25	...	0·00	...	0·00	...	0·00	10	3·47	1	0·34	29	10·06	213	73·95	25	21	
Surinam ...	346	...	346	15	4·33	...	0·00	15	4·33	3	0·86	2	0·57	5	1·44	3	0·86	3	0·86	26	7·51	320	92·48	...	.	
Guadeloupe	1,903	...	1,903	85	4·46	10	0·52	95	4·99	28	1·47	5	0·26	33	1·73	80	1·89	7	0·36	171	8·98	1,695	88·54	4	43	
Total ...	12,603	134	12,737	541	4·56	80	0·62	661	5·18	111	0·87	22	0·17	133	1·04	331	2·59	38	0·29	1,163	9·13	11,230	88·21	146	192	

The numbers coming into depôt were 5,882 less than in 1878-79. The percentage of rejections was 5·18 against 8·45—a satisfactory improvement. The releases on application were on the other hand 1·04 per cent against 0·56, while desertions were 2·59 per cent against 2·93. The death-rate was 0·29 against 0·51, the depôts being fairly healthy throughout the year. An outbreak of cholera in the Jamaica depôt caused six of the 38 deaths, but it was speedily checked and did not spread. But for an exceptionally heavy mortality among infants, the results of the year would have been still more favourable. The average period of detention in depôt was less than one month, except in the case of the Guadeloupe depôt, where some sufferers from measles in September had to be detained for the second shipment in December.

8. The North-Western Provinces and Oudh supplied 7,974 of the total number of souls embarked, and Behar 1,740, the rest coming from Central India (339), Bengal (303); the Punjab (139), and other provinces.

9. The number of return emigrants re-emigrating has grown year by year from 172 in 1875-76 to 628 in the year under review. Of these last, 283 went to Demerara and 195 to Trinidad, 64 to Mauritius, 44 to Surinam, 35 to the French Colonies, and 7 to Jamaica. It appears from the Mauritius Immigration report that return immigrants are looked upon with great disfavour in that island.

10. The rule prescribing the despatch of at least 40 women to every hundred men was practically complied with, there being only 2 women short sent to Demerara and one to Surinam at the close of the year, all other agencies having made up their complement. The number of women sent to Mauritius was as high as 51·04 per cent on the number of men, and to St. Vincent 48·39 per cent. The Labor Ordinance of Mauritius requires the high proportion of 50 women to every 100 male emigrants.

11. The whole of the emigrants were sent in sailing vessels, 23 being chartered in all, and the average number of emigrants in each vessel being 449 as against 444 in 1878-79. Reports have not yet been received regarding four of the vessels, but in all the other cases the results were satisfactory, the highest death-rate being 2·61 against 4·46 in the previous year. No cholera broke out on any of the vessels. The Lieutenant-Governor observes, from the report of the Protector of Immigrants to Mauritius for 1879, that the mortality at sea is much higher in the case of emigrants from Calcutta than it is in despatches from Madras. The rate stood thus for the last four years—

	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Calcutta	3·9	10·6	7·9	5·9
Madras	No arrivals.	2·3	1·9	1·3

This is a point deserving of careful enquiry, and the Lieutenant-Governor desires that the Protector will report upon it, after consulting medical officers who may have sailed with emigrants from both ports, and referring to the Madras local authorities and the Emigration Agents in Madras and Calcutta.

12. The following statement gives particulars of the return emigrants of the year :—

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average percentage of mortality.		Savings.	
					Aggregate amount.	Average amount.
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	6	1,602	14	0·87	2,76,538 0 0	172 9 11
Demerara	9	1,118	12	1·07	2,47,091 7 2	221 8 9
Trinidad	1	473	4	0·84	1,23,557 9 0	261 3 6
Jamaica	1	407	11	2·70	47,811 0 0	117 7 6
Surinam	2	798	21	2·63	64,196 3 8	80 7 1
Total	12	4,398	62	1·40	7,59,794 3 10	172 12 1

The numbers returning were 1,134 more than in 1878-79, and 1,854 more than in 1877-78. In no case was the mortality on the return passage excessive, considering that many of the coolies came back in poor health. Besides the above, 189 coolies returned by French mail steamers from Réunion with savings averaging Rs. 54-1-5 per man.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 333.

COPY submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.

No. 334.

COPY forwarded to the Protector of Emigrants for information and guidance, and for circulation to the Emigration Agents.

Circular No. 25.

COPY forwarded to all Commissioners of Divisions for information, and for circulation to all district officers subordinate to them.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. W. BOLTON,

Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

CALCUTTA.
The 12th November 1880.

C. E. G.—Reg. No. 7864C—362—17-11-80.